# LONDON SCENES,

WITH

Seventy-eight Engravings.

JOHN HARRIS,
CORNER OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD

CHILDREN'S BOOK
COLLECTION

LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES

1813.

*Mr. Berresfords Arrival.* page 6.

*Temple Bar.* page 7.

*Published Oct.1 1824. by J.Harris, corner of St. Pauls.*

# LONDON SCENES,

OR

## A VISIT

TO

# UNCLE WILLIAM IN TOWN;

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION OF THE MOST REMARKABLE

## BUILDINGS AND CURIOSITIES

IN

## The British Metropolis.

ILLUSTRATED BY 78 COPPERPLATE ENGRAVINGS.

This is London!—how do you like it?

LONDON:
JOHN HARRIS,
CORNER OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.

[1824]

Printed by S. and R. Bentley,
Dorset-street, Fleet-street, London.

# INTRODUCTION.

"My dear papa," said James Seymour, one morning, after repeating his lessons with great fluency, "I have been reading, with my brothers and sisters, the volume styled 'A Visit to Uncle William in Town;' and I assure you it has given us a pretty clear idea of the great metropolis, which we have never yet had an opportunity of seeing. There are, however, in my humble opinion, some things to be regretted in respect of that useful compilation."

"Indeed!" said Mr. Seymour, with a smile. "Well, Sir, since you have assumed the character of a *critic*, I hope you will point out the defects of the work, and tell me how you should wish them to be remedied."

Poor James blushed deeply at his father's insinuation, and, for some time, seemed unwilling to pursue the subject. Emboldened, however, by the affectionate encouragement of his beloved parent, he said,

" I think, papa, there is too little diversity in a book which is professedly designed for the amusement and instruction of children. We have merely an account of *places* and *buildings*, without any thing to relieve the attention or enliven the spirits; and even the *pictures*, from the same cause, afford us but little comparative amusement. On the contrary, when we sit down to peruse those pretty books called ' Scenes in England, Europe, Asia, Africa, and America,' we are delighted beyond measure with the variety of objects which they exhibit, whilst our minds are illumined by the information which they convey. Permit me then, my dear papa, to ask whether it would not be an essential *improvement*, if the volume to which I allude were carefully revised, and interspersed with occasional anecdotes, references to ancient customs, pageants, sports, and amusements, and a few pieces

of poetry, descriptive of, or connected with, such scenes as the author might choose to bring forward?".

"Your ideas, my love," replied Mr. Seymour, "are perfectly correct, and I am almost inclined to transmit your suggestion to the publisher, who might possibly avail himself of it; though you must remember that this would be attended with very serious expense,—as the work would require to be re-arranged, and almost entirely re-written,—and the size of the volume must, of necessity, be considerably enlarged."

Mrs. Seymour, who had all this time been listening to the conversation between her son and her husband, now observed, that a letter on the subject, post paid, could give no offence, and might possibly lead to the accomplishment of a wish which she conceived was perfectly natural in itself, and highly creditable to the observation of so young a reader. "And with respect to the expense," said she, "that would, of course, be ultimately defrayed by an augmented demand for the publication."

Convinced of the propriety of his son's remarks,

and inclined, as on most occasions, to adopt the advice of his amiable lady, Mr. Seymour dispatched a note, almost immediately, to the proprietor of the Juvenile Library, at the corner of St. Paul's Church Yard; and the task of correcting, enlarging, and almost recompiling the "Visit to Uncle William," with the additional title of "London Scenes," was soon afterwards committed to one who has spared neither time nor labour to render "an old friend with a new face" acceptable to a generous and discerning Public, who are always willing to sanction the improvements in a book, though they know not the name of

THE AUTHOR.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE METROPOLIS.

On the banks of the Thames, sixty miles from the sea,
Stands London, that wonderful city;
And the scenes it exhibits, all writers agree,
Are very attractive and pretty.

If Westminster, Southwark, and hamlets a few,
Be comprised, (nay, my reader, don't laugh,)
A breadth of five miles will be brought into view,
And a length of seven miles and a half.

In this wonderful space there are seventy fine squares,
And the streets, alleys, places, and rows,
Are more than eight thousand; yet ev'ry one bears
A name, which the postman well knows.

One hundred and sixty a thousand times told
Is the number of houses, they say;
And the people, as parliament records unfold,
Are six times more num'rous than they.

The food which the mouths of so many require
I cannot in verse make appear;
Nor could you believe, were the fact to transpire,
How much is consumed in a year.

Of oxen, I think, just one hundred and ten
A thousand times told is the sum;
Seven hundred and seventy-six thousand sheep, then,
With their lambkins, to market must come.

Then all sorts of poultry and game, if you please,
In silence must here be pass'd o'er;
With fish and with butter, milk, bacon, and cheese,
And eggs, and a dozen things more.

From the people, and what they consume, let us turn
To the structures which seem to surround us;
But even the number of these is so great,
They threaten almost to confound us.

Schools, palaces, hospitals, burst on the eye,
With churches and chapels between;
Fine mansions and markets contiguous lie,
And the prisons amount to fifteen.

Six bridges across the broad river are thrown,
Commanding an excellent view,—
Two of these are of iron, and four are of stone,
And three of the six are quite new.

The houses are handsome, the shops very gay,
Pedestrians all busily pass;
And bright is the scene at the close of the day,
When the sun is exchanged for the gas.

Carts, coaches, and waggons, all rolling along,
With chaises, trucks, horses, and dogs,
All add to the bustle, and add to the throng,
As forward each passenger jogs.

From morning till night, too, the numerous cries
Are *mingled,* I scarce can tell how;
As mackarel—meat for your cats—mutton pies,
And milk smoking hot from the cow!

Water-cresses and sweeps those young sluggards annoy
Who quit with reluctance their room;
Whilst their sonorous bells the hoarse dustmen employ,
Amidst cries of "Who 'll buy a hair broom?"

To these, as the sun rises higher, succeed
Hot rolls, if you wish to have any,—
Sweet cowslips,—old clothes—and a miniature breed
Of young lambs, one or two for a penny.

Of windmills—fine images—pictures—and fruit—
With roots for the garden, you hear;
And gingerbread nuts, which your palate may suit
If the heat of the spice you can bear.

Great news, and green peas—knives to grind—a live goose,—
Chairs to mend—any broken flint glass,—
Pins—pipkins—and matches—the best you can use—
In succession all rapidly pass.

Then follow the puppets, a comical crew,—
Squeaking punch, with his dog and his wife,—
With grinders of organs, and trumpeters too,—
And dolls that can dance without life.

Perhaps 'tis fatiguing—well, what do you say?
A ride may be well worth our while;
We'll each take a seat in this new cabriolet,
And the fare is but eight-pence per mile.

To Greenwich, or Hampstead, or famed Primrose-hill,
Our way we'll directly pursue;
For these are the parts, say the knights of the quill,
Which of London command the best view.

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# LONDON SCENES.

MR. BERESFORD, an opulent merchant in the City, and an old bachelor of fifty-seven, was one of the most eccentric and benevolent men in the world. He gave away, annually, large sums of money to the different charities which grace the Metropolis, and, satisfied with the consciousness of doing good to his fellow-creatures, he never made an ostentatious display of his bounty, by placing his name among the list of public benefactors. Mr. Beresford had, as usual, passed his Christmas at the Parsonage-house of his brother-in-law, the Rev. Mr. Hastings, to whom, as well as to his family, he was strongly attached, and the more so, perhaps, from the latter having been deprived of their mother a short time after the birth of his youngest niece, a sweet little girl, now in her

seventh year. The distance from the Parsonage to London had hitherto excluded the children of Mr. Hastings from any personal intercourse with the Metropolis; but their uncle William, during his last visit, had promised to come down in the Spring for the express purpose of bringing them to town, that he might have the pleasure of shewing them the beauties and curiosities of London.

It was now the latter end of April, and the weather uncommonly fine, when Mr. Beresford remarked one morning, as he sat at breakfast with his housekeeper, Mrs. Tabitha Plainway, that he thought he should set off early the next morning for the Parsonage, in order to fulfil the promise which he had made to his nephews and nieces. "Let every thing be got ready to receive us," said he, "as I mean to return by the evening of the second day. I expect to enjoy a large stock of amusement from this visit," he continued; "but if I thought that either your health or comfort would be affected by the joyous feelings and lively spirits of the children, I would still delay the long wished-for hour of their arrival."

Mrs. Plainway was the widow of a respectable tradesman, who, failing in business, had died of a broken heart, leaving his wife wholly unprovided for. This circumstance made her the peculiar object of Mr. Beresford's benevolence. He took her

into his house, placed her at the head of his table, and gave her the entire management of his domestic concerns:—a trust which she had faithfully discharged for nearly twenty years. Gratitude, the endearing tie which binds man to man as firmly as the claims of relationship, had so closely attached Mrs. Plainway to the interests of her benefactor, that whatever became a source of gratification to him, was also one to her. She, therefore, looked forward with delight to the approaching visit of the young people, contented to sacrifice her own ease and quiet for their happiness, and that of her master. She now assured Mr. Beresford, that under the hope of shortly seeing the children of his affection, she had already made various preparations, and what little remained to be performed, such as the making of cakes, jellies, tarts, &c. she would hasten to execute with all possible dispatch.

The next morning, Thomas and John, the coachman and footman of Mr. Beresford, who had lived in his service upwards of thirty years, were in readiness at an early hour, with the old family coach, drawn by four fine black horses, with long tails and flowing manes, to convey him to the Parsonage. His arrival was greeted by the children with every demonstration of joy, as they knew the purport of his visit; and their hearts swelled

with transport at the idea of soon obtaining the long wished-for summit of their youthful hopes.

The family of Mr. Hastings consisted of three girls and two boys. Matilda, the eldest, was fourteen; Elizabeth, twelve; and Julia, seven. They resembled their deceased mother in the beauty of their persons. Their skins were transparently fair, their eyes blue and sparkling, and their hair, which was flaxen, fell in a profusion of natural ringlets over their neck and shoulders. William, named after his uncle Beresford, was a fine, tall, intelligent boy, turned of fifteen. His complexion was a clear brown, enlivened by the glow of health. His eyes dark and penetrating, betrayed a mind of the higher order, while the pleasing seriousness of his countenance denoted, that young as he was, he both thought and studied much. His brother Henry, who was only ten years of age, resembled him strongly in person, excepting that no trace of serious reflection was to be found in his ever lively features.

Mr. Hastings, who feared that so many young people would sadly disturb the order and regularity of a bachelor's house, and occasion much inconvenience to Mrs. Tabitha Plainway, for whose virtues and good qualities he had a high respect, would fain have persuaded his brother to let Julia remain at the Parsonage, until she was some years

older, when she would be better calculated to form a just opinion of the beauties of the Metropolis; but Mr. Beresford, catching the little girl up in his arms, declared his resolution of taking them all with him: besides, Mrs. Plainway had expressly conjured him not to come back without the smiling rosy-cheeked Julia. "She is quite old enough to take a delight in many things which I will point out to her," said he; "and her brothers and sisters would lose half the pleasure of their amusements, if little Julia did not share with them in their enjoyments."

It was, therefore, determined that the sweet girl should accompany the party to London; and the next day, with beating hearts and merry faces, the children, for the first time in their lives, left the peaceful mansion of their native village to pass a fortnight in the bustle and confusion of the gay and wealthy Metropolis.

It was evening before the travellers reached town, but they instantly found sufficient to admire in the succession of beautiful shops, displaying their vast stock of brilliant and costly materials, some sparkling with the finest jewels, cut glass, &c. others filled with a profusion of toys, fancy articles, millinery and silks, and all illuminated by the mild rays of the gas lights. The senses of the young people seemed completely fascinated, nor did they

recover their composure, until they found themselves addressed by Mrs. Tabitha, who kissing them affectionately, welcomed them to London with such cordiality, that they tried to recall their wandering thoughts, and sat down to partake of the niceties which she had got ready against their arrival. Little Julia, placed in Mrs. Tabitha's lap, soon gave freedom to her natural vivacity; while uncle William, to the infinite joy of his nephews and nieces, declared, that if they were not too much fatigued with their journey, he intended to begin his first view of the beauties of the Metropolis the next day, by a walk from Temple Bar to the Tower, where they were already engaged to dine with an old friend of his, at whose house they were to sleep that night, that they might proceed the next morning in their perambulation.

It may easily be imagined that all were too anxious to begin their researches to acknowledge any weariness, had they felt it; but a good night's rest had been the lot of all the little party, and they rose the next morning in high health and spirits. After breakfast, Thomas and John were again in readiness, and, after taking an affectionate leave of Mrs. Tabitha, the young party leaped into the carriage, which was ordered to stop at

*Temple Bar.* page 7.

*Interior of Temple Church.* page 8.

*Fountain, Temple.* page 9.

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## TEMPLE BAR.

" This gate," said Mr. Beresford, " occupies the spot where formerly rails, posts, and a chain, terminated the boundaries of the City, as at Holborn, Smithfield, and Whitechapel Bars. On account of its publicity, it was also made the place of exposure for the heads of traitors, who had forfeited their lives to their country. The present gate is a specimen of the abilities of that great architect, Sir Christopher Wren, and was built from 1670 to 1672. The pilasters are of the Corinthian order, the statues on the eastern side are those of Queen Elizabeth, and James the First. Those on the west, are the statues of Charles the First and Charles the Second. It is here, also, that the City magistracy receive the royal family, and other distinguished visitors, on any particular occasion. The Lord Mayor, as King's lieutenant, delivers the sword of state to the Sovereign when he enters the City, which his Majesty returns. He is then preceded by the magistracy, bare headed; the Lord Mayor by virtue of his office, riding on horseback before the king.

" We will now," said Mr. Beresford, " take a view of the

## TEMPLE CHURCH,

which was founded by the Knights Templars, in 1185, after the model of the Holy Sepulchre, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. It is supposed to have been dedicated a second time, in 1240, by the Knights Hospitallers, and the structure which was then erected, is probably the same which is now standing. The style of architecture is Norman. The walls, you perceive, are of stone, strengthened with buttresses, and the pavement of the church is black and white marble. The organ, though plain, is said to be one of the finest in England, and many of the monuments are highly interesting Let us take a view of the tombs of eleven of the Knights Templars, who lie buried underneath the pavement of the round tower at the west end. These figures, you see, consist of two groups, and five of them are cross-legged, to denote that they had made a vow to visit Palestine. Three are in complete mail, with plain helmets, flat at the top, and long shields. One of the stone coffins is supposed to be the tomb of William Plantagenet, fifth son of Henry the Third.

" The great hall of the *Middle Temple* is a spacious and beautiful edifice, which, in ancient times, was the scene of many sumptuous entertainments. And in what is called the *Inner Temple*, another

handsome hall, though smaller than the former, is decorated with the story of Pegasus, painted by Sir James Thornhill, and with portraits of King William, Queen Mary, and Lords Coke and Littleton. On the last house of the terrace on which these buildings are situated, was lately a sun-dial with the inscription '*Be gone about your business*,' which is said to have originated in a curious mistake, but, being considered appropriate, was suffered to remain. The person under whose direction the dial was put up, was asked for a *motto* whilst busily engaged; and feeling vexed at the interruption, he hastily exclaimed, 'Be gone about your business.' This the painter considered was to be the motto, and inserted it accordingly."

The terrace commands a beautiful view of the river, and attracts many visitors; but the most inviting and retired promenade is the

## FOUNTAIN COURT.

Here a stream of water is forced to a considerable height, which again descends into a basin, surrounded by rails and beautiful trees; through the foliage of these, you can discover the buttresses, and antique walls of the Middle Temple, the effect of which is truly picturesque.

Returning into Fleet-street, Mr. Beresford pointed out to his juvenile companions

## THE CHIMES AT ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCH.

Directly over the clock is a niche in the wall of the church containing two savage figures, nearly as large as life, standing erect, and each holding in his hand a massy club, with which they alternately strike the quarters, their heads and arms moving at every blow. This affords great amusement to children and the vulgar; and several persons may often be seen assembled opposite to the clock waiting for the striking of these singular chimes.

St. Dunstan was once as a conjuror held,
Who more than his neighbours could do;
In working of iron and brass he excell'd,
And music and painting he knew.

The harp called Eolian 'tis said he invented;
And a legend, as ev'ry one knows,
Declares that he took (and he never repented,)
Old Nick, with his tongs, by the nose.

The *truth* of this story I cannot make good,
Nor is it a bus'ness of mine:
But near Temple Bar a fam'd tavern once stood,
With the exploit itself for a sign.

*S.t Dunstans Clock Fleet Street.* page 10.

*Mad Ox on Blackfriars Bridge.* page 15.

*Published Oct.1 1824. by J.Harris. corner of S.t Pauls.*

Satisfied with surveying St. Dunstan's chimes, and laughing heartily at their uncle's poetical description of his unparalleled achievement, the little party proceeded to the church of St. Bridget, commonly called

## ST. BRIDE'S.

"This," said Mr. Beresford, "is one of the most beautiful edifices in London, and its elegant towering spire exhibits one of the best specimens of the skill of Sir Christopher Wren, after whose plan it was built. The lowest part of the steeple consists of a plain square tower, with a port-hole light; this supports a range of Corinthian pillars and pilasters, in the middle of which is a large arched window; over the entablature is a semi-circular pediment, and at the corners of the tower are placed flaming urns. From the centre rises a beautiful octagonal open-work of spiry lanterns with arches, supported by Tuscan pilasters, and in the centre of each arch is a cherub. Above the entablature rises a lesser piece of open-work of the Ionic order, but in other respects like the former: above this, and still reduced, is another story; and above that, a fourth, with pillars of the Corinthian order, without cherubim, but having port-holes over the arches. The tower contains a fine peal of

twelve bells. The whole terminates in a beautiful obelisk, with a ball, fane, and cross. The exquisite proportions preserved in each of these stories are well worthy of your attention. The interior is also exceedingly rich: the altar-piece is very beautiful, and the organ large and fine toned. Upon the pavement in the middle of the aisle is the tombstone of Samuel Richardson, the celebrated novelist, and author of Pamela, Clarissa Harlowe, and Sir Charles Grandison."

After devoting as much time as they thought proper to the contemplation of this interesting and sacred structure, the young folks and their uncle directed their steps towards Bridge-street, and soon arrived at

## BRIDEWELL HOSPITAL.

"This," said Mr. Beresford, "is one of the five royal hospitals built on the site of a palace belonging to several of the kings of England, and in which King John held his court. Within the walls is a well dedicated to St. Bridget; and hence originated the name of Bridewell Palace. William the Conqueror gave many of the choicest materials towards rebuilding St. Paul's Cathedral, which had been destroyed by fire. Henry the First gave away as many of the castle stones as served to en-

close and form the gates and precincts of the church. Notwithstanding this the palace remained, and became occasionally the residence of various monarchs. In 1522, Cardinal Wolsey made it his abode. Henry the Eighth rebuilt the palace in the short space of six weeks, and in a style of great magnificence, for the Emperor Charles the Fifth, who visited England in 1522. Falling into decay, it was granted by Edward the Sixth to Bishop Ridley, for the purpose of being converted to some charitable use. It became a house for the correction of vagabonds of all denominations; and is now used for a similar purpose, as well as for an hospital, or house of industry for poor male children, who are taught different trades by masters appointed for that purpose. They wear blue clothes, and are distinguished only by their buttons, which are engraved with the head of Edward the Sixth. The building consists of a large square, one side of which is partly occupied by the chapel, chiefly remarkable for the beautiful workmanship of its iron gates; and by the hall, an extensive apartment, adorned with portraits of Charles II., James II., and Sir R. C. Glynn, together with two beautiful pictures,—the one representing Edward VI. delivering the charter of the Hospital to the corporation of London, the other exhibiting a procession of Queen Anne to St. Paul's Cathedral in 1708. The other sides of the square

are occupied by the prison, and the houses of the masters of arts or trades carried on and taught here."

Quitting this Hospital, and crossing the road, Mr. Beresford conducted his young friends into Water Lane, where he pointed out to their notice

## APOTHECARIES' HALL,

A spacious edifice, chiefly of brick, situated on the east side of the lane. The buildings form a quadrangle, ending a small paved court, in which a flight of steps leads to the hall or great room. Here is a Corinthian screen, and at the north end a small gallery, ornamented with several portraits, and a bust of Gideon de Laune, a French refugee, who had the honour of being appointed apothecary to James the First. This building contains the most convenient laboratories for the making of chemical and Galenical preparations; and on the west side is a spacious shop, where drugs and medicines of the best quality are sold, either in large or small quantities, to the profession and to the public.

The next object of attraction to our little party was

*Black Friars Bridge.* page 15.

*St Pauls Church.* page 21.

*St Pauls School.* page 30.

*Published Nov.r 20.1818, by J. Harris. Corner of St Pauls.*

## BLACKFRIARS' BRIDGE.

"Here," said Mr. Beresford, "is one of the best views of St. Paul's Cathedral; and here may likewise be seen the Southwark and London bridges, the Monument, the Tower, and about thirty churches. From the west side of the bridge you may observe the high towering steeple of St. Bride's Church, the Temple Gardens, and perhaps the finest terrace in Europe, called the Adelphi, with a beautiful south view of Somerset House. On the left, are the venerable towers of Westminster Abbey, and the Waterloo or Strand bridge."

Upon Henry enquiring when Blackfriars' Bridge was built, his uncle informed him that it was finished in the year 1769, and that Mr. Robert Mylne was the architect. "It is built of stone," said he, "and has nine elliptical arches. The length of the entire span, from wharf to wharf, is 995 feet; width of the central arch 100 feet; and, reckoning from the central one towards the shores, the width of the arches on each side are, respectively, 98, 93, 83, and 70 feet."

The pleasure connected with the contemplation of the river Thames, and the diversified objects on its shores, proved to be of short duration; for whilst Mr. Beresford and the children were mu-

tually expressing their admiration of some distant objects, their attention was suddenly roused, and their fears were, for a moment, awakened by the loud and increasing cry of

## A MAD OX!

Turning round from the balustrade, Mr. Beresford perceived that a furious animal, which had escaped from a neighbouring slaughter-house, was, in fact, upon the bridge, and rushing rapidly forward; whilst a host of butchers, boys, and idle persons, were pursuing his progress with eager impetuosity, and rending the air with their deafening acclamations. This was an unexpected rencontre, and uncle William trembled lest some accident might occur, in a place where neither house nor shop presented a mean of escape. The children, also, were so violently alarmed, that I believe the whole party, for a few minutes, devoutly wished themselves at the Parsonage. Providentially, however, the bullock passed them without mischief, and was happily secured, at a short distance, after overturning a barrow of oranges, tossing into the air a ferocious dog, which had been wantonly urged to attack him, and upsetting a porter with a basket of eggs, which afforded much amusement to many of the passengers,—as the eggs, from their effluvia,

were evidently bad, and the poor fellow, who had received no other injury, was in a piteous plight, as his head and face were literally dripping with their contents.

"Well," said Mr. Beresford, who was frequently inclined to versify some of the most remarkable occurrences of the day,

"What a picture of life does this bustle present
To you—to myself—and to all!
How it shows that the young, on their pleasures intent,
Into danger may speedily fall!

"With pleasing sensations yon scen'ry we view'd,
Little thinking that peril was near;
When the bullock rush'd forward, by hundreds pursued,
And fill'd ev'ry bosom with fear.

"So, oft have the ardent and gay been o'ertaken
By troubles which none could surmise;
By friends and acquaintance conjointly forsaken,
And sunk, never more to arise.

"Even riches themselves unperceiv'd roll away,
Like this fruit overturn'd in the street;
And character, brittle as eggs, in a day
May be crush'd by an enemy's feet.

"On Providence, therefore, at all times depend,
Tho' no danger you happen to see;
Make Virtue your constant companion and friend,
And your motto let *Watchfulness* be."

Mr. Beresford now directed the attention of the children to the obelisk at the north end of Bridge Street, which was erected in the mayoralty of John Wilks, Esq. It is a plain but neat column, with two lamps brilliantly lighted with gas, from the gasometer in Dorset Street, and is said to occupy the spot where the last portion of the Fleet river or ditch was arched over, previously to the erection of the new and elegant street between it and the side of the Thames.

Continuing their route on the east side of Fleet Market, they soon arrived at

## THE FLEET PRISON,

Which appears to have been founded in the commencement of the reign of Richard I. and evidently derived its name from the ditch or river already mentioned, which, before the fire of London, was navigable for small vessels nearly as high as Holborn Bridge. The prison consists of four stories, and the whole of the premises are light and airy. All sorts of provisions are brought in every day, and are cried through the long range of galleries as in the public streets. There is a small chapel, in which service is performed once every Sunday; and an extensive yard is allotted for the exercise and recreation of the prisoners, who are principally

confined for debt; though persons guilty of contempt in the court of Chancery are also committed to this place.

Retiring from this scene of calamity, with the laudable resolution of never involving themselves in debt, the young party followed their affectionate uncle up Ludgate Hill and through Stationers' Court, to

## STATIONERS' HALL.

"William," said Mr. Beresford, "you have doubtless heard your father speak of Stationers' Hall, which you perceive is situated in a court of the same name. The entry of printed books on the registers of the Stationers' Company is made there, which is attended by the payment of a small fee and the deposit of eleven copies of the work, which secures protection from piracy under pain of certain penalties. The hall, or great room, has an elegant carved screen of the composite order at the entrance, surrounded by a wainscoting of oak: the light is admitted through lofty windows sashed on each side; and at the north end is a large arched window entirely filled with painted glass, and the border and variegated fan are extremely vivid and resplendent. The court-room is spacious, and superbly ornamented and fitted up. It has four

large windows, hung with crimson curtains festooned, and looks into a pleasant garden. The ceiling, which is arched and richly decorated with stucco work, rises from an elegant composite cornice, and from the centre hangs a large cut glass chandelier. The chimney-piece is composed of variegated marbles, and has a beautiful enriched frieze, finely sculptured with fruits and flowers in the boldest relief. At the west end of this apartment is the master's seat, and over it, surmounted by crimson drapery, a fine painting, by West, of King Alfred dividing his last loaf with a poor pilgrim. This picture and another placed on the left of the fire-place, representing Mary Queen of Scotland escaping from Lochlevin Castle by the assistance of George Douglas, were the gifts of Mr. Alderman Boydell. In the stock-room are likewise several good paintings; but I should have told you that notwithstanding the interior elegance of the building, the exterior is a plain brick front cased with stone. The front exhibits a range of arched windows, an ornamented entrance, and a neat cornice, with pannels of bas-reliefs above. It stands in a paved court-yard, inclosed by handsome iron railing with gates."

## ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

All eyes were now directed towards St. Paul's, and all were equally eager to examine its beauties, making a hundred enquiries in a minute. "Stop, my dear children," said the good-natured Mr. Beresford, "and let us take a survey of the building before we enter it. First, then, I should tell you, that the marble statue you now behold is that of Queen Anne, and the four emblematical figures which surround her, are designed to represent Great Britain, France, Ireland, and America. The principal entrance, facing the west, runs parallel with the opening of Ludgate Street, and the other two, facing north and south, correspond in their architecture. The western portico is one of the most magnificent specimens of the kind in the world. The twelve lofty columns below are Corinthian, and the eight above, supporting a grand pediment, are composite: the whole rests on an elevated base, the ascent to which is by a flight of twenty-two steps of black marble, running the whole length of the portico. On the right and left of the west front are two elegant turrets, each terminating in a dome ornamented with a pine-apple. The north turret contains the belfry, and the south the clock, which is an object well deserving the

attention of the curious. The dials on the outside are regulated by a smaller one within. The diameter of each external dial is eighteen feet ten inches; the length of the minute hands is eight feet, and the weight of each is said to be twenty-five pounds; the length of the hour hands is five feet five inches, and the weight forty-four pounds each; and the length of the figures on each dial is two feet two inches and a half. The fine-toned bell, on which the hours are struck, may be easily distinguished from every other in London, and has been heard, in the dead of the night, at a distance of twenty miles. An anecdote in confirmation of this fact has been frequently told of a soldier on duty at Windsor, who was supposed to have been found sleeping; but who escaped punishment, by asserting that he was only attentively listening to St. Paul's clock, which had just struck *thirteen*: an assertion which, however improbable, was corroborated by those who kept guard the same night in St. James's Park. This bell, which is ten feet in diameter, and weighs about four tons and a quarter, is never tolled, but for some member of the Royal Family, the Bishop of London, the Dean of the Cathedral, or the Lord Mayor, in the event of the latter dying in his mayoralty."

"Pray, uncle," said William, "what is that

sculpture in basso-relievo which I see on the tympan of the pediment?"

"The conversion of St. Paul," replied Mr. Beresford, "which is esteemed one of the most spirited works of Sir Francis Bird. That gigantic statue on the apex is also St. Paul; while on either hand, at different distances, are other colossal statues of St. Peter, St. James, and the four Evangelists. On the tympanum of the south pediment above the portico is a Phœnix rising from the flames, with the motto *Resurgam* (I shall rise again) inscribed beneath, as emblematical of the re-construction of the church after the fire. It is said, that when Sir Christopher Wren had fixed upon the spot which was to be the centre of the building, he ordered a common labourer to fetch from a heap of rubbish a stone, as a mark for the masons. The one which the man brought happened to be part of a grave-stone, with the single word *Resurgam* inscribed on it. Sir Christopher hailed it as a good omen, and caused the Phœnix rising from the flames to be placed on the south tympanum. The dome or cupola, the idea of which was taken from the Pantheon at Rome, rises in beautiful and majestic proportion, and may be considered as the most remarkable feature of the building. This is terminated by an elegant lan-

tern; and the crowning ornaments of a ball and cross are equally handsome and appropriate. In 1821 the old ones were removed, and those which now adorn this sumptuous edifice display the improved state of mechanical science. The new ball is capable of containing eight persons, and the ascent to it consists of 616 steps, of which the first 280 lead to the whispering gallery, and the next 254 to the upper gallery, the remainder leading to the globe or ball."

The view from the gallery at the base of the lantern, in a clear day, is truly enchanting. "From this height," says an elegant writer, "the surrounding country, to a great extent, seems completely under the eye; and even the capital, extensive as it is, with all its dependent villages, appears to occupy but an inconsiderable portion of the vast expanse that lies spread out before the sight. The bright line that accompanies the meanderings of the Thames, and the thousands of vessels that float upon its stream, and in the vicinity of the Tower almost exclude its waters from the sight, compose principal features in the scene. The metropolis itself has a kind of mimic appearance. Every thing seems diminished: the squares, the streets, the buildings, the carriages, and the people, have all a fairy-like aspect; and

the throng and bustle among the inhabitants excite the idea of a colony of busy emmets."

The iron balustrade, which stands upon the dwarf wall surrounding the church-yard, is remarkably strong, and has seven gates. It is said to weigh more than 200 tons, and cost 11,202*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*; and the expense of erecting the Cathedral, exclusive of this charge, was 736,752*l.* 2*s.* 3¼*d.* "I must also inform you," said Mr. Beresford, "that this magnificent edifice was completed in thirty-five years, by one architect, Sir Christopher Wren, and one master-mason, Mr. Thomas Strong, and while one bishop, Dr. Henry Compton, filled the see of London."

The young people now expressed a wish to view the interior of the church, and were, for a moment, overwhelmed with awe as they looked around them. Their attention, however, was soon directed to the various beautiful monuments which are placed here, to perpetuate the memory of departed worth, genius, and valour. On a plain marble slab, under the organ, (which is one of the finest in the kingdom,) leading to the choir, Mr. Beresford shewed them a Latin inscription, which he desired William to translate to his sisters. It was this:—

"Underneath lies Christopher Wren, the builder of this church and this city, who lived upwards of ninety years, not for himself, but for the public

good. Reader! would you search out his monument? Look around."

"In the centre of this dome," said Mr. Beresford, "repose the ashes of the ever-to-be-lamented Lord Nelson, who was mortally wounded in the battle of Trafalgar, and whose public funeral exceeded in magnificence that of any subject recorded in the annals of history. His body, having been brought to England, was placed in a sumptuous coffin, and laid in state three days at Greenwich Hospital. It was then removed in grand procession, by water, to the Admiralty; and on the following day (January 9, 1806) it was conveyed, on a funeral car, to this Cathedral, attended by the Prince of Wales and all the other princes of the blood, with an immense concourse of nobility and gentry, the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, and many naval and military officers. The whole interior of the church was hung with mourning; and after a grand funeral service, intermingled with music and anthems by the united choirs of St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and the Chapel Royal, the remains of the gallant hero were lowered into the vault, and the solemnities were terminated by the verse and chorus, 'His body is buried in peace; but his name liveth evermore.'

"The monument in memory of this renowned warrior exhibits his lordship leaning on an anchor,

and pointed out by Britannia to the contemplation of two young seamen. The words Copenhagen, Nile, Trafalgar, appear on the cornice of the pedestal; and appropriate figures are introduced to represent the North Sea, the German Ocean, the Nile, and the Mediterranean."

"But, my dear uncle," said Miss Hastings, "how shall I recollect the names of all these distinguished characters, by whose monuments we are surrounded?"

"I will endeavour to assist you," rejoined Mr. Beresford; and, taking out his pocket-book, he hastily sketched the following lines:—

In monumental marble stand
  Nelson and Collingwood;
Those brave defenders of our land,—
  The noble and the good.

Fam'd Howe, and Abercrombie too,
  With gallant Moore, are here;
Cornwallis and Dundas we view,
  And Crauford claims a tear.

Mackenzie, Picton, Langworth, Hay,
  Were by their King approv'd;
Cooke, Duff, Mosse, Riou, brave as they,
  Were with Mackinnon lov'd.

Though Westcott's lost, except his name,
  And Miller's thread is cut;—
With Hardinge they survive in fame,
  Like Burgess, Faulknor, Hutt.

From warriors of a high degree
We now with pleasure turn,
The learned Johnson's tomb to see,
And gaze on Howard's urn.

Sir Joshua Reynolds, and thou, great
Sir William Jones, adieu;
The hour I see is growing late,
And we have much to view.

"Before we quit this dome," said Mr. Beresford, "I must inform you, that one of the most gratifying sights in the world is to be seen here in the month of June; when the whole of this great circle, by temporary seats and scaffolding, is converted into an amphitheatre, and from six to eight thousand children, clothed and educated in the parochial schools of the metropolis, assemble for the celebration of divine service, and occasionally join in the singing and chorusses, with the most solemn and pleasing effect. This interesting scene was witnessed in the year 1814 by his present Majesty, then Prince Regent, and the Sovereigns of Russia and Prussia."

The young people now proceeded to survey the *choir*, which is separated from the body of the church by a pair of elegant iron gates, and adorned in all its parts with a profusion of exquisite carving; —the *whispering gallery*, where the softest whisper is distinctly conveyed to the ear from the opposite

side of the dome, and the forcible shutting of the door occasions a reverberation like that of thunder; —the *library*, furnished with a collection of valuable books and manuscripts, and exhibiting a peculiar curiosity in the floor, which consists of more than two thousand pieces of oak;—and the *model-room*, containing a large model for a building in the style of a Grecian temple, and also a model of the beautiful altar-piece, intended by the architect to ornament the east end of the church.

On visiting what is called the clock-work, they were nearly stunned by the striking of the hour; and, as the atmosphere was not so clear as they could have wished, they relinquished their design of visiting the external galleries, and descended, with their kind uncle, to the body of the church, whence they took a farewell glance at the paintings which adorn the upper part of the dome, and represent the principal scenes in the life of St. Paul.

On returning to the church-yard, Mr. Beresford pointed out the spot formerly occupied by *St. Paul's cross*, which was a pulpit formed of wood, mounted upon steps of stone, and covered with lead. Here sermons were frequently delivered before the court, the Lord Mayor, the aldermen, and principal citizens: here also oaths were administered, laws were promulgated, penances were per-

formed, and measures of various kinds were adopted, for the purposes of policy or ambition.

From this celebrated spot, where Jane Shore publicly acknowledged the only stain that tarnished her reputation, the little party now proceeded to

## PANNIER ALLEY;

Which derives its name from a small stone monument in the wall, having the representation of a pannier, on which is seated a naked boy, with a bunch of grapes held between his hand and his left foot; the right leg hanging down by the side of the pannier. Underneath is the following inscription:—

When ye have sovght
The City rovnd,
Yet still this is
The highest ground.
Avgvst the 27, 1688.

Mr. Beresford then led them through Paternoster Row, celebrated as the principal mart for books, and the residence of the bookselling trade, to the east end of St. Paul's Church-yard, where stands

## ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL,

Founded and endowed by Dr. John Colet, Dean of St. Paul's, for the education of children of all

nations and countries indifferently, to the number of one hundred and fifty-three; that number having been fixed on in reference to the fishes taken by St. Peter, when he let down his net at the command of his risen Lord. In former times, the children went regularly on Childermas-day, by the express direction of the founder, to hear the sermon of the *boy-bishop* at St. Paul's Church, and to offer him their pence.

"Pray, uncle," exclaimed Henry, "what do you mean by a *boy-bishop*?"

"My love," replied Mr. Beresford, "under the ancient form of worship in St. Paul's Cathedral, a boy was annually chosen from among the choristers, who assumed the state and dress of a bishop, and was actually considered to possess episcopal authority from the day of St. Nicholas to that of the Holy Innocents, or, in other words, from the 6th to the 28th of December. Though not permitted to celebrate mass, he was at full liberty to preach; and an article in the accompts of Edward the First evinces, that one of these Lilliputian prelates had the honour of singing vespers before that monarch. If the child-bishop died within the period of his prelacy, he was buried with the same ceremonies as the real diocesan; and one instance of such interment may be found among the tombs in Salisbury Cathedral."

The boys who are now admitted into St. Paul's school are instructed in the learned languages, and afterwards removed to the Universities, where they receive an annual stipend towards their maintenance.

After pointing out the *Chapter House* of the cathedral, a handsome modern brick building, on the north side of St. Paul's Church-yard, Mr. Beresford conducted his young companions through Knight Rider's Street (so called in remembrance of the train of gallant knights who, in the days of chivalry, passed this way from the Tower to the grand tournaments in Smithfield,) to Bennett's Hill, where they paused to look at the

## HERALDS' COLLEGE.

This is a brick building, erected in the year 1683, and adorned with four Ionic pilasters. It contains a court of honour, a library, and apartments for the members; who consist of three kings at arms, six heralds at arms, and four pursuivants at arms, whose business it is to attend the sovereign upon particular occasions, to arrange state processions, make proclamations, and examine genealogies and the claims of nobility.

At a short distance from this institution is another college, for the civilians or lawyers in the ecclesias-

tical court: this is called Doctor's Commons; and here the validity of wills, marriages, divorces, and offences against the church are examined and brought to trial.

The little party now proceeded to Upper Thames Street, and, on arriving at Suffolk Lane, their attention was excited by the appearance of

## MERCHANT TAILORS' SCHOOL,

A most respectable seminary, which was originally founded in 1561, in a building called the *Manor of the Rose*, but having been destroyed by the fire of London, the present fabric was erected in 1675. It is a large brick edifice, with a range of pilasters in front, and a small cloister running beneath the school and library. The scholars are instructed in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, &c.; and a grand public examination of those belonging to the upper form is made every year, when some are sent to St. John's College, Oxford. Many celebrated persons have received their education at this school.

Resuming their walk till they came a little to the west of London Bridge, our pedestrians arrived at

## FISHMONGERS' HALL.

The chief front of this edifice lies toward the river, of which it commands a fine view. The hall is a spacious and lofty apartment, with a gallery going round the whole interior: it contains a full-sized statue, carved in wood and painted, of the brave Sir William Walworth, who was a member of this Company and Lord Mayor of London. His right hand grasps a *real* dagger, reputed to be the one with which he struck Wat Tyler from his horse. Sir William was buried in the neighbouring church of St. Michael, and his pall, which is curiously embroidered with gold, is carefully preserved by the Company. Here is also a statue, in wood, of St. Peter, the tutelary saint of the Fishmongers' Company; and in the court-room are several pictures of the different kinds of fish that furnish the markets. The windows are decorated with the arms of various benefactors, beautifully executed in stained glass.

On quitting this edifice, and proceeding towards the bottom of Fish Street Hill, the attention of our little party was suddenly excited by some loud huzzas, and the almost immediate approach of

*Fishmongers Hall.* page 34

*St. Dunstan, in the East.* page 44.

*The Monument, &c.* page 39.

*Published Nov.r 20, 1818, by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

*The Dancing Sweeps.* — *page* 35.

*Heroic conduct of Ed.d Osborne.* *page* 37.

*Published Oct.r 1.1824. by J. Harris. corner of S.t Pauls.*

## THE DANCING SWEEPS.

" Oh!" said Mr. Beresford, " this is the *First of May;* I really wonder that we have not met with some of these parties much earlier, as, on this annual occasion, they are to be seen in almost all parts of the Metropolis. Indeed, I believe the festival is kept up by the sooty tribe for three days, during which they contrive to pick up a few pence from their regular employers, and from spectators in the streets. Formerly they were regaled in the most hospitable manner at the mansion of the late excellent and benevolent Mrs. Montague, in Portman Square, in remembrance, as is reported, of the sufferings of some relative, who had been stolen by a chimney-sweeper, and providentially recovered from his tyranny; but since the decease of their munificent patroness, their entertainments on that spot have never been repeated.

See the motley group advancing,
Full of frolic, full of play;
All around the garland dancing,
Joyous on the first of May.

Cleans'd from all the smoky vapour,
Chalk and brickdust on each face,
Now they shine in gilded paper,—
Flowing wigs their noddles grace!

Shovels, scrapers, sticks, and brushes,
Drums and tambourines supply;
Whilst *my lady* (how she blushes!)
Waves her brazen ladle high.

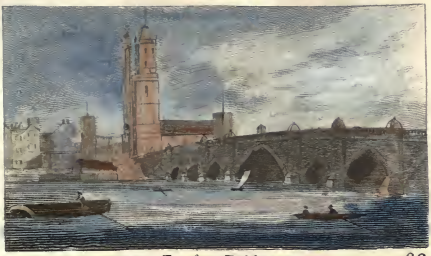
Look! the very garland dances!
When was such a wonder seen?
O! I find, as it advances,
There 's a Jack within the green.

Ev'ry house each dancer visits,
With his music rattling loud;
Whilst her *ladyship* solicits
Benefactions from the crowd.

Here, musicians, here 's a penny,—
You have done your best to please:
Chimney-sweepers have not many
Recreations such as these.

## LONDON BRIDGE.

"Before this bridge was built," said Mr. Beresford, "a wooden one was constructed, and bordered on each side by houses, connected together by large arches of timber, which crossed the street and gave it a most cumbersome appearance. In the year 1212 it was the scene of a most distressing accident: a fire having broken out at the Southwark end, immense crowds of persons hastened from London to



*London Bridge.* page 36

*The Custom House.* page 45

*The Trinity House.* page 208.

*Published Nov.r 20. 1818, by J. Harris, Corner of St.Paul's.*

extinguish it; but the flames having unfortunately communicated with the opposite extremity of the bridge, upwards of three thousand persons fell victims to the devouring element, or were drowned by overloading the vessels which were brought for their rescue. In 1756 all the houses were removed, and the bridge underwent a complete repair. It now consists of 19 stone arches, of various sizes and irregular construction. It is 915 feet long and 45 wide, and its elevation in the centre is 60 feet. The pavement on each side for foot passengers is seven feet wide, with a stone balustrade, surmounted by lamps, next the river; and a width of 31 feet is allowed for carriages. The spaces between the piers, however, are so much contracted, that a very heavy fall of water occurs with every flux and reflux of the tides; and this has occasioned so many accidents, that the present bridge is about to be removed, and a new one erected, which may obviate all existing inconveniences.

Connected with the history of the old bridge, is an anecdote too interesting to be passed over in silence. In one of the houses which hung over the water resided Sir William Hewet, clothworker; whose infant daughter, being one day in the arms of a female servant at one of the back windows, accidentally fell into the river. A brave youth, named Edward Osborne, who was apprentice to Sir

William, no sooner perceived the accident than he resolved to save the child or perish in the attempt. He accordingly threw himself into the Thames, and happily succeeded in his benevolent design. As she was sole heiress to her father's immense property, the Earl of Shrewsbury and several other persons of high rank wished to pay their addresses to her when she became marriageable; but Sir William politely declined their offers, and gratefully bestowed her on the gallant Osborne, with the appropriate remark, that he who had saved her life had the best title to her hand.

After reminding the children that the workmen were already driving piles for the erection of a new bridge, Mr. Beresford pointed out the church of

## ST. MAGNUS, THE MARTYR,

Which originally belonged to the abbots and convents of Westminster and Bermondsey. It is a substantial stone fabric, and has an opening through the bottom of the tower for foot passengers. An attic course nearly conceals the roof, and the tower which rises from it is square and plain. From these project the clock, a useful object to passengers going towards London Bridge, and said to be on an exact level with the ground at the end of Cornhill. Another course above this is adorned

with elegant coupled Ionic pilasters, supporting an open-work balustrade, with urns and flames at the corners. Hence rises a beautiful lantern, with Ionic pilasters, and arched windows in the intercolumniations. On the pilasters rest the dome or cupola, the crown of which is surmounted with another open-work balustrade, above which rises a spiral turret supporting the fane. The interior is correspondingly beautiful.

"We must now," continued Mr. Beresford, "walk up Fish Street Hill, in order to view

## THE MONUMENT,

Which was erected by Parliament to commemorate the great fire of London in 1666, which began in Pudding Lane and ended at Pie Corner. This noble column is of the Doric order, and stands two hundred and two feet from the ground. Over the capital is an iron balcony, encompassing a cone that supports a blazing urn of gilt brass. The genius of Sir Christopher Wren, who was the architect, would have crowned this stately pillar with a statue of King Charles the Second; but dulness prevailed over taste. This column is in imitation of Trajan's pillar, but exceeds it in height, as well as those noble remains of ancient grandeur—the pillars of Antoninus at Rome, and

of the Emperor Theodosius at Constantinople; the largest of those being only one hundred and seventy-two feet and a half in height, and twelve feet three inches in diameter. Look at those emblems which adorn the west side of the pedestal; they are very ingenious. The City of London is personified by a woman, sitting among the ruins in a languishing attitude, with her hair dishevelled, and her hand lying carelessly on her sword. Time stands behind, and is gradually raising her up. Providence is represented by that female at her side, gently touching her with one hand, and with a winged sceptre in the other, pointing to aërial beings in the clouds, one having a cornucopia—the emblem of plenty, the other a palm branch—the emblem of peace. The bee-hive at her feet denotes that industry and application are the means of overcoming the greatest misfortunes. The distance presents a view of the flaming city, the inhabitants of which are raising their hands towards heaven for succour. On an elevated pavement, opposite the city, stands the King, in the habit of a Roman conqueror, and in the attitude of commanding the Sciences, Architecture, and Liberty to assist her. Behind the King stands the Duke of York, with a garland in one hand to crown the rising city, and in the other a sword for her defence. There are various inscriptions on the pedestal of this column; and that

on the north side presents us, in Latin, with the following particulars of the destructive fire, whose ravages it was erected to commemorate.

"On the 2d of September 1666, at the distance of 202 feet, (the height of this column) about midnight, a most terrible fire broke out, which, driven on by a high wind, not only destroyed the contiguous parts, but also very remote places, with incredible noise and fury. It consumed 89 churches, the city gates, Guildhall, many hospitals, schools, libraries, and other public structures, 13,200 dwelling-houses, and 400 streets. The ruins of the city comprised 406 acres from the Tower, by the Thames, to the Temple church, and from the north-east gate along the City-wall to Holborn Bridge."

The interior of the monument contains a staircase of black marble, consisting of 365 steps; and as the gallery commands a very extensive view many visitors are in the habit of ascending it for the gratification of their curiosity. It is melancholy to add, however, that no less than three persons have committed suicide by precipitating themselves from the Monument: a weaver, in 1750; a baker, in 1788; and a merchant, in 1810. Having satisfied their curiosity with a view of the Monument, Mr. Beresford and his young friends proceeded to Cannon Street, where the former intended to make

some little purchases; and on their return, little Julia exclaimed, "My dear Uncle, what is this?" pointing at the same moment to

## LONDON STONE.

"Well," said Mr. Beresford, "this is remarkable! It was proposed that Julia should have been left at home, and yet we are indebted to her for pointing out the greatest antiquity in London, or perhaps in England, which, but for her, we should certainly have passed unnoticed.

"This, my dears," added he, "is called London Stone, and is placed, as you perceive, against the south side of St. Swithin's Church; and, as it was much wore away before the fire of London, it is cased over with a new stone, cut hollow, so that the old one may be seen, and is defended from injury by an iron bar with spikes, which is placed before it. Most authors are of opinion that it was originally set up by the Romans, as the centre from which they measured distances, as those distances coincide very exactly."

The little party now returned to the bottom of Fish Street Hill, and, turning down Lower Thames Street, soon came in view of

*London Stone.* page 42.

*Rag Fair in Rosemary Lane.* page 58.

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## BILLINGSGATE.

"In former times," said Mr. Beresford, "this was a small port, at which almost every article of commerce was landed; but in the year 1693 it was opened as a daily market for fish, and it continues to be the only place in London to which the fishing smacks bring their cargoes. Great quantities of salmon are sent from the north fisheries to Billingsgate, packed in ice, which is kept for that purpose during the winter in ice-houses. This spot is also the principal resort of small vessels laden with oranges, lemons, nuts, and Spanish onions; as many orange merchants reside in the vicinity. Here, also, the Gravesend passage-boats and Margate hoys ply for passengers.

"The Billingsgate fish-women are proverbial for low and abusive language, and strangers are sometimes grossly insulted by them. The crowd, also, at market time is very great, and the noise and clamour almost distracting.

"To get a dish
Of dainty fish,
To market here folks come;
But others fear
To have each ear
Transform'd into a drum.

Such sad abuse,
In constant use,
Here vibrates through the air,
That no place can,
Since sales began,
With Billingsgate compare.

Such noisy crying,
Swearing, lying,
Are heard both night and day;
Each decent lad
And lass are glad,
Unhurt, to get away."

The next object which claimed attention was the church of

## ST. DUNSTAN IN THE EAST.

This edifice was rebuilt, under the superintendance of Mr. Laing, in 1820, with the exception of the tower, which is greatly admired for the singularity of its construction; the spire rests upon the crowns of four pointed arches—a bold attempt in architecture, and a demonstrative proof of the geometrical skill of Sir Christopher Wren, by whom it was erected in 1678. The paintings on glass, with which the windows of the church are embellished, are extremely beautiful, particularly those

at the east end, comprising representations of Moses and Aaron, with the ark of the covenant; and our blessed Redeemer with the four Evangelists.

## THE CORN EXCHANGE

Is a neat building in Mark Lane, and well contrived for the purpose. The upper stories are used for coffee-houses, and are supported by a range of Doric columns, enclosed by iron rails and gates. The ground-floor forms a small square, surrounded by a colonnade, and paved with flat stones. On the outside of this colonnade is a broad covered space, with windows in the roof, to give light to the corn-factors, who have each a desk, in which they range the samples of corn to be examined by the buyers.

## NEW CUSTOM HOUSE.

The Old Custom House, which stood near the eastern termination of Thames Street, facing the river, was destroyed by fire on the 12th of February, 1814, together with many of the books, papers, and valuable property of every description. The New Custom House is erected near the ruins of the former building: Mr. David Laing was the

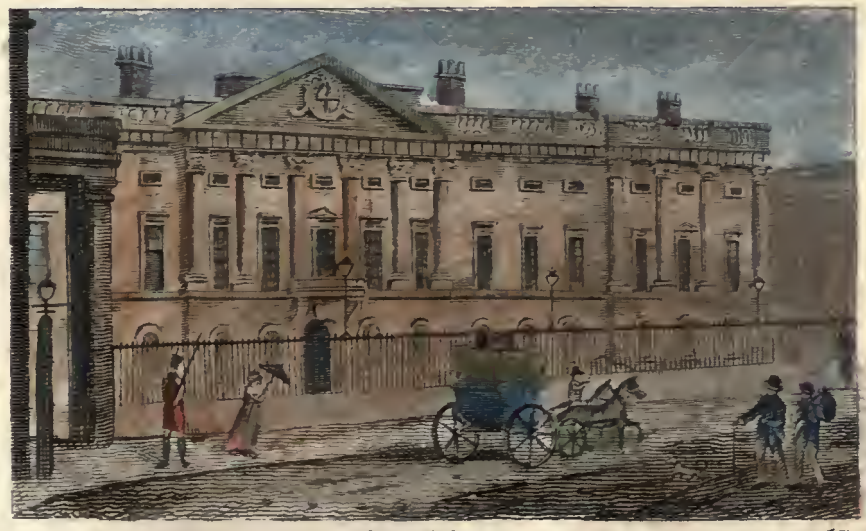
architect. The whole of the interior and exterior is plain and without decoration, except the south front which faces the river, and is characteristic of a national official edifice. The building is fire-proof, and extends four hundred and eighty feet in length, by one hundred in breadth. The long room is one hundred and ninety feet by sixty-six. The whole is intended to accommodate six hundred and fifty clerks and other officers, besides one thousand and fifty tide-waiters and inferior servants.

The first stone of this edifice was laid by Lord Liverpool and some of his colleagues in the administration, on the 25th of October, 1813, being the fifty-third anniversary of his late Majesty's accession to the throne; and on the 12th of May, 1817, it was opened for the transaction of public business. Since that time a new and substantial wharf has been constructed in front of the Custom House towards the river, and part of Billingsgate Dock has been filled up, which are great improvements to the neighbourhood.

## THE TOWER.

Our little party now hastened to the Tower, where they were welcomed by the friend of their uncle with every demonstration of kindness; and after having partaken of some refreshments, they

*The Tower.* *page* 46



*The Mint.* *page* 57

*Interior of St Catherines.* *page* 61

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proceeded to examine the building and its curiosities.

"Some writers," said Mr. Beresford, "have dated the foundation of the Tower as far back as the time of Julius Cæsar; but it is certain that it existed in that of William the Conqueror, who built what is called the White Tower. This is situated in the centre of the fortress, and is a square spacious building, with four watch-towers, one of which is used as an observatory. The interior consists of three lofty stories, together with commodious vaults, as depositories for salt petre. On the first-floor are two noble apartments,—one comprising a small armoury for the naval service, arranged with considerable taste; the other occupied by chests and presses, filled with different instruments of destruction. The upper stories form a *depôt* of arms and armourers' tools; and above all is a reservoir, so contrived as to be capable of supplying the whole garrison with water, raised from the river by an engine of curious contrivance.

"Within the same tower is an ancient chapel, of Saxon architecture, dedicated to St. John, and originally used by our monarchs as the scene of their devotions. Its form is oblong, and rounded at the ends; and its strength is such that it seems to bid defiance even to the ravages of time. The roof is supported by twelve massy round pillars,

with square capitals, and ornamented with a cross on every side. The gallery, which looks into the chapel through an arched window, is now part of the Record Office, and contains an immense quantity of parchment rolls of records.

"The foundation of a castle on the south, towards the river, was laid in 1092, by William Rufus; and the edifice was finished by his successor. Beneath it were two gates,—one of which bore the appellation of *Traitor's Gate*, because state prisoners were formerly conveyed through it to their prisons; the other received a name which implied that imprisonment, in the dark ages, was generally prelusive of scenes of blood.

"The other principal buildings contained in this fortress are, the Church; the Jewel Office; the Horse Armoury; the grand Storehouse, comprising the small armoury; the Spanish Armoury; and the Lion's Tower, which is occupied as a *menagerie.*

## THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AD VINCULA

Is considered as the parish church of the Tower, and appears to lay claim to great antiquity; as an order was issued by Henry III. in 1241, for repairing and beautifying it. It is less remarkable, however, for its architecture or embellishments, than as being the burial place of many illustrious

persons who suffered death within the fortress, or on what is called Tower Hill. Among these we may enumerate the learned and witty Sir Thomas Moore; the beautiful and innocent Anna Boleyn; Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex; Thomas Seymour, lord high admiral, beheaded by a warrant from his own brother, the Protector Somerset, who, in less than three years, perished on the same scaffold; Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, supposed to have been the object of Elizabeth's warmest affection, yet consigned by that queen to the murderous axe; James Scott, son of Charles II. who was doomed to death for attempting to wrest the sceptre from one who afterwards abdicated his throne; the Earl of Kilmarnock, and Lords Lovat and Balmerino, who fomented the Scotch rebellion in 1745. Many other persons repose here in the cold embrace of death; some of whom were murdered in civil commotions,—some fell by the hands of assassins,—and others sunk under the length of their imprisonment, and the hopelessness of their circumstances.

## THE JEWEL OFFICE

Is a strong stone room, where the regalia, or crown jewels, of England are deposited. The imperial crown, which is adorned with precious stones of

every description, was newly modelled in 1821 for the coronation of his present majesty. Here also are preserved the other insignia of royalty used at the coronation of our sovereigns, comprising the golden orb, the golden sceptre and its cross, the sceptre with the dove, St. Edward's staff, the curtana or sword of mercy, the golden spurs, the golden eagle and spoon, used in anointing the monarch, the state saltcellar, &c. The visitor is likewise shewn the crown which his majesty wears in the House of Parliament, the silver font used at the baptism of the royal family, and a large collection of ancient plate.

The whole of these costly articles are enclosed within a strong grating, in consequence of an attempt having been made, during the reign of Charles the Second, to steal the crown and other articles of the regalia from this place. A daring and unprincipled ruffian, named Blood, having assumed the habit of a clergyman, and ingratiated himself into the friendship of Talbot Edwards, the keeper of the jewels, contrived one day to introduce three accomplices, as wicked and daring as himself; and after knocking down and gagging the unsuspecting old man, they concealed the crown and other valuables in a bag, and were triumphantly making off with their plunder, when Edwards recovered from the blows he had received, and,

forcing the gag out of his mouth, gave an alarm; in consequence of which the ruffians were pursued, and their booty was wrested from them.

The king, on hearing of this circumstance, expressed a wish to see and converse with the ring-leader of the robbers; and Blood, who it seems was one of the protector's disbanded officers, boldly stated that he had once entertained a design on his majesty's life, but had subsequently altered his intention. He also remarked, that though he had for some time felt indifferent about life, his execution might be attended with fatal consequences, as his accomplices had bound themselves, by the most solemn oaths, to revenge the death of any member of the confederacy. To the astonishment of the nation, this audacious ruffian received a free pardon, together with an estate in Ireland worth 500*l.* per annum, and was permitted to attend the king's person at court; whilst the faithful Edwards, who had saved the crown at the risk of his life, received but a small pension from the capricious and inconsistent monarch.

## THE HORSE ARMORY

Is a plain brick building, on the east of the White Tower, and is adorned with suits of armour of almost every description; but the most striking

objects are the effigies of the English monarchs, armed cap-a-pie, and seated on horseback. The line commences with William the Conqueror, and extends to George the Second. Mr. Beresford also pointed out some helmets and cuirasses taken from the French in the memorable battle of Waterloo; and then directed the attention of his young companions to the armour of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, which is seven feet high; an Indian suit of armour, composed of iron quills; and a ludicrous figure of William Somers, who was jester to King Henry the Eighth.

## THE GRAND STOREHOUSE

Is a noble edifice, on the north side of the White Tower, built partly of brick and partly of stone, and extending upwards of 340 feet in length and 60 in breadth. The upper story is occupied by

## THE SMALL ARMORY,

Which contains about two hundred thousand stand of arms, all kept perfectly bright, and tastefully disposed in a variety of elegant and interesting forms, representing the sun, the royal arms, the head of Medusa, stars, &c. Here are also exhibited the swords which were carried before the

Pretender, when he was proclaimed king in Scotland; the elegant shield and carbine belonging to the Earl of Mar; the highlander's battle-axe, with which the pious Colonel Gardiner was killed at Preston Pans; a curious cannon, taken from Malta by the French, and retaken by the English, and several Maltese flags. Beneath this apartment is the depôt for the royal train of artillery: the cannon are arranged on each side, and many of them are particularly worthy of notice, on account of their antiquity.

## THE SPANISH ARMORY

Is the name of an extensive apartment, principally occupied by the spoils of the Spanish Armada, and comprising an awful but interesting collection of Spanish battle-axes, match-lock-pistols, lances, spears, boarding pikes, &c., together with thumb-screws, iron cravats, and other instruments of torture, and the banner of the armada, which the Pope conceived he had rendered *invincible* by his benediction.

Whilst our little party were thoughtfully examining these objects, a curtain, at the upper end of the room, was drawn up, and discovered the figure of Queen Elizabeth in armour, standing in a spirited attitude by a fine cream-coloured horse,

superbly caparisoned; whilst her attendant page holds the bridle in his left hand, and the queen's helmet, with a plume of white feathers, in his right. Her majesty is supposed just to have alighted at Tilbury Fort, to review her fleet, destined to act against the armada. The upper part of her dress is crimson satin, lined with gold, and richly fringed; her petticoat is of white silk, ornamented with pearls and spangles; and her armour is said to be that which she actually wore on the occasion of the threatened invasion, in 1588.

Several other objects of curiosity are exhibited in this apartment, as the walking staff of Henry the Eighth, with which he is said to have perambulated the streets of the metropolis, to ascertain whether the constables performed their duty; a wooden cannon, artfully used by the same prince, at the siege of Boulogne, to terrify the garrison to surrender; ten pieces of cannon presented to Charles the Second, when a child, to instruct him in his military studies; and the axe which terminated the mortal life of Anna Boleyn, and that of the Earl of Essex.

## THE LION'S TOWER,

Situated on the right of the inner entrance to the Tower, is said to have been erected by Edward the Fourth, and was originally called the Bulwark;

but received its present appellation from its being occupied by the wild beasts, which, at different periods, have been presented to our monarchs. "Some years ago," said Mr. Beresford, "the animals in this place were very numerous, but there are so few at present, that they are scarcely worth seeing, particularly as I intend to show you the fine collection of beasts and birds at Exeter Change. When I last visited this place," added he, "I was surprised to find many of the dens entirely empty; and the man who had the charge of the animals, told me a laughable story of an Irish gentleman, who, never having visited London before, felt peculiarly anxious to view the *royal menagerie*, and had actually walked above three miles in an extremely sultry day to gratify his curiosity; but was so completely chagrined at his disappointment that he withdrew almost frantic with rage, execrating the lions, the Tower, and his own credulity."

As the children expressed no desire to see so small and uninteresting an exhibition, Mr. Beresford directed their attention to the gates which form the principal entrance to the Tower, and remarked that in opening and shutting them all the formalities of a garrison are observed. "When they are closed for the night" said he, "the yeoman porter, with a sergeant and six private soldiers, fetch the keys from the house of the governor, where

they are reposited during the day; and on the porter returning from the outer gate, he is challenged by the soldiers on guard with 'Who comes here?' On his replying 'The keys,' the guards reply 'Pass, keys,' and rest their musquets. The porter then says 'God save the King!' and a general *amen* terminates the ceremony."

The yeomen porters, or warders, of the Tower wear a uniform similar to that of the yeomen of the guard at the royal palaces. Their coats, which have full sleeves and short full skirts, are of scarlet cloth, ornamented with a quantity of gold lace; and on their breasts and backs they wear the silver badge of the rose, thistle, and shamrock, with the letters G. R: they wear round flat-crowned caps, tied with coloured riband, and their whole appearance is striking and magnificent.

"Pray, uncle," exclaimed Henry, "where are the cannon which are fired on days of public rejoicing? I am rather surprised that we have not yet seen them."

"This fortress, my love," rejoined Mr. Beresford, "is separated on one side from the river Thames by a broad commodious wharf, and by a ditch, narrower than that next Tower-hill. Over this is a drawbridge for the more convenient receiving or sending out naval stores and ammunition; and on the wharf is a platform mounted with sixty-one

pieces of artillery, which are invariably fired on certain state festivals, and also in time of war, to announce the intelligence of any important victory. I must also inform you that, on a parallel with the wharf is a pleasant promenade called the *Ladies' Line*, where genteel company enjoy, in the fine evenings of summer, a delightful walk, and an interesting view of the shipping in the river."

Highly gratified with all they had seen, and cordially thanking their kind guide for the information which he had afforded them in the course of the day, the young people now returned to pass the evening with the friend of their uncle; determining to rise very early in the morning, that they might pay a visit to the docks, and resume their examination of the city.

## NEW MINT ON TOWER HILL.

"Before we proceed to the docks," said Mr. Beresford, "we will take a look at the New Mint. It is from a design by Mr. Smirke, junior, for the purpose of coinage. The building has a long stone front, consisting of three stories, surmounted by a handsome balustrade. By way of contrast I must tell you that on this spot once stood *East Minster*, or the abbey of St. Mary of the Graces, founded by Edward the Third, in consequence of a fright

at sea, on his return from France. The Mint is inaccessible to strangers, excepting on recommendation, or business with the officers.

"We will now," said Mr. Beresford, "devote a few minutes to that part of Rosemary Lane which is called

RAG FAIR,

And on which, for your amusement, I have composed the following lines:—

In Rosemary Lane
A numerous train
Of old clothes-men you daily may meet;
Jews and Jewesses too
Here their calling pursue,
In the midst and each side of the street.

'Tis comic enough
To view the vile stuff
Which here lies spread over the ground:
While the voices of dealers,
Spectators, and stealers,
Unite in one dissonant sound.

Long beards are seen wagging,
And merchants are bragging
What famous success they have had;
Whilst others display
The ill luck of the day,
And vow they shall surely go mad!

Gowns, petticoats, hats,
Skins of rabbits and cats,
Are here to be had by the score;
With slippers and boots,
Greasy wigs and old suits,
Patch'd shoes and a hundred things more.

But to press through the crowd,
Where the noise is so loud,
I confess I'm by no means inclin'd;
For surely a stranger
Must be in some danger
Of leaving his money behind.

From what I've survey'd
Of this curious trade,
(A trade with which none can compare,)
I'm sure to remember,
From May to December,
The ludicrous scenes of Rag Fair.

"The Jews," continued Mr. Beresford, "are under great obligations to our present mild and excellent government; and their situation forms a striking contrast with that of some of their forefathers, who, in ancient times, were the subjects of peculiar hardship and oppression.

"Richard the First issued a proclamation, forbidding any Jews to appear at Westminster during the ceremony of his coronation, as he knew the

hatred of the English to be inflamed against them, and was desirous to avoid the possibility of a tumult. Some of the more respectable Hebrews, however, having collected a considerable sum of money among themselves, resolved to present it to the new monarch, in order to conciliate his favour; and with this design they went boldly to the gates of Westminster Hall. For this imprudent step they paid the forfeit of their lives; and the infuriate populace, not satisfied with these victims, rushed into the city, murdered all the Jews they could find, and laid their houses in ashes.

"King John extorted from these unfortunate beings, by menaces and tortures, a prodigious sum of money; and one man had a tooth pulled out every day till he consented to ransom the remainder for ten thousand pieces of gold. In the reign of Henry the Third they were dreadfully persecuted; and, in some instances, actually put to death under the pretence of their having kidnapped and crucified the children of Christians; and when the son of Henry came to the throne, his subjects offered him the fifteenth of all their own goods, if he would expel the Jews entirely from his dominions. They were accordingly banished to the number of 15,060, and the monies arising from the sale of their houses and lands

found their way, together with the sum promised by the English, into the royal coffers.

"During the reigns of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Elizabeth, and James, the inveterate hatred of the nation against this harassed people began gradually to decrease; and the Jews, finding that the flames of persecution were not likely to be rekindled, returned in considerable numbers to London, and other parts of England, where they now enjoy the most ample protection."

## THE INTERIOR OF ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH.

The next object which excited the attention of our little party, was the church of St. Catherine, though nearly obscured by the surrounding buildings. They entered it in order to take a view of the altar-piece, which is of the most exquisite workmanship, and said to be the only altar of pure Gothic in England. On entering the church, the flood of light thrown on every part of it from the large and beautiful east window, forms a delightful exhibition not often to be met with. In the choir are several handsome stalls, richly ornamented with Gothic work; and the pulpit is justly considered a great curiosity. Queen Philippa, consort to Edward the Third, was a great bene-

factress to the Hospital to which it originally belonged. It contains a fine monument of the Duke of Exeter, who, with his two wives and sister, lies buried here. This church yields pensions to a master, three brethren, three sisters, ten beadswomen, and six poor scholars, who reside in a house provided for their accommodation.

## THE LONDON OR WAPPING DOCK,

Is capable of containing five hundred merchantmen, stretching to the south of Ratcliff Highway, and communicating with the Thames by inlets into three basins. The dock to the eastern side is called Shadwell Dock. This was a sight perfectly new to the young people, and to William and Henry in particular it afforded infinite amusement. They next proceeded to the

## WEST INDIA DOCKS.

"These capacious basins," said Mr. Beresford, "are intended to receive the whole of the ships in the West India trade. The vast warehouses that surround them, the cranes and other conveniences to render the removing of heavy articles easy from these warehouses to the ships, form altogether one of the most extraordinary commercial curiosities in

*London Docks.* page 62

*West India Docks.* page 62

*Ironmongers Hall.* page 68

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the world. In making the excavations for these immense docks, a wonderful phenomenon of nature was discovered. Eight feet beneath the surface appeared a forest of trees, which, for many centuries, had been concealed from view. A great deal of the timber was dried and burnt by the inhabitants of Poplar. The entrances into these docks are on each side, one from Limehouse, and the other from Blackwall."

## EAST INDIA DOCKS.

In the year 1803, the principal proprietors of East India shipping purchased the Brunswick Dock, at Blackwall, with a view of converting it into a dock for loading their outward-bound vessels; and another large dock of eighteen acres was subsequently formed, with a commodious basin, for the purpose of unloading the homeward-bound ships. All East India produce coming to the port of London, must be unloaded in these docks; and the business is conducted by thirteen Directors of the East India Company.

## LONDON HOSPITAL.

The little party now proceeded through Mile End into Whitechapel Road. Here the London

Hospital attracted the notice of Elizabeth, who enquired of her uncle concerning it. "It is for the relief of all sick and diseased persons, my love," said he, "and was founded in 1740. The edifice is neatly constructed of brick, plain, yet elegant; the whole may be seen at one view."

At a short distance from this hospital, Mr. Beresford pointed out a row of modern-built houses, as occupying the site of a high mound of earth, which some say was originally formed of the rubbish collected together after the great fire of London, and others affirm to have been one of those places in which dead bodies were hastily thrown, and covered over with earth, in the time of the plague. "And now," said Mr. Beresford, "that I have adverted to that awful visitation, which repeatedly afflicted the Metropolis in former ages, I must tell you what is related respecting an individual, commonly called

## "THE BLIND PIPER."

"Oh! let us hear it, let us hear it," exclaimed two or three of the children in a breath.

"The common story," said Mr. Beresford, "is, that a blind Piper, having been taken up in the streets in a state of stupid intoxication, was thrown into the cart which was used for carrying away

dead bodies in the plague; but, coming to his senses whilst in the cart, he began to blow his pipes, which so terrified the buriers that they all ran away. Defoe, however, relates the tale in a different manner. He says, the circumstance occurred within the bounds of one John Hayward, who, at the time of the plague, was under-sexton of the parish of St. Stephen, Coleman Street, without ever catching the infection. This sexton informed Defoe, that the Piper was not blind, but a poor ignorant man, who usually walked his rounds about ten o'clock at night, piping from door to door; and at public-houses where he was known, he was occasionally supplied with victuals and drink, and sometimes picked up a few farthings; in return for which, he used to pipe and sing for the entertainment of his benefactors. In the time of the plague, the poor fellow went his rounds as usual, but was almost starved; and when any one asked after his health, he would reply, the *dead cart* had not yet taken him, but had promised to call for him next week. One night this poor fellow, having been regaled more bountifully than usual, laid himself upon a bulk or stall near Cripplegate, and fell into a profound sleep. Shortly afterwards, a body really dead of the plague was deposited by his side by some of the neighbours, who mistook him for a corpse; and

when John Hayward and his assistant came up to the spot with their cart, and the bell which announced its approach, they took up the two bodies with the instruments used for that purpose, and threw them into the cart. They then proceeded to take in several other dead bodies, till the Piper was almost buried; yet all this time he slept soundly. At length on the cart stopping, before they shot out their melancholy load, the Piper awoke, and raising himself up, exclaimed, 'Hey! where am I?' This, of course, occasioned a momentary alarm; but, after a short pause, Hayward said, 'Bless me, there is somebody in the cart not quite dead!' The other man then enquired, 'Who are you?' and the fellow replied, 'I am the poor Piper: where am I?'—'Where are you,' said Hayward; 'why, you are in the dead cart, and we are going to bury you.'—'But, I 'm not dead, though, am I?' said the Piper. This made them laugh, notwithstanding their melancholy employment, and they immediately extricated the poor fellow from his dismal situation, and told him to go about his business."

After walking through Whitechapel, one side of which abounds with inns, and the other is occupied by an immense range of butchers' shops, Mr. Beresford informed his young companions, that the street which runs north and south from Aldgate Church, was called

## HOUNDSDITCH,

Which, washing the city wall, took its name from being the casual receptacle for dead dogs. "It was rendered remarkable," said he, "from its being the burial place of that traitorous nobleman, Edric, the murderer of his sovereign, Edmund Ironside, in favour of Canute: 'I like the treason,' said Canute: 'but I detest the traitor.' In consequence of this opinion, when Edric came to demand the price of his iniquity, he having been promised the highest place in London, Canute ordered him to be beheaded and his head fixed on the highest part of the Tower. His body was thrown into Houndsditch, as unworthy of a more honourable place of sepulture."

## SYNAGOGUE OF THE GERMAN JEWS.

In consequence of a legacy left for that purpose by a lady, this place of worship was rebuilt in 1790, in a superb and handsome manner. It is situated in Duke's Place. The edifice is brick; the roof is supported by massy stone pillars, and is decorated with the utmost magnificence. Seven modern highly finished brass branches of excellent workmanship are suspended from the ceiling.

## IRONMONGERS' HALL

Is a stately modern edifice, on the north side of Fenchurch Street. The front is of Portland stone, and of elegant architecture. The basement story is wrought in rustic, and has in its centre a large arched door-way, with a window on each side: the superstructure is enriched by four pilasters of the Ionic order. Over the entrance is a spacious Venetian window, and above it a circular one within an arch. In the tympanum of the pediment are the Company's arms. The East India warehouses are also in this street.

Returning from Fenchurch Street, Mr. Beresford pointed out the beautiful church of

## ST. ANDREW UNDERSHAFT,

Which is situated at the north-west corner of Aldgate ward, but is almost obscured by the houses in Leadenhall Street. The interior is decorated with great taste: the ceiling is adorned with representations of angels holding shields, scrolls, and vases; and the compartments over the pillars which support it are painted in imitation of bas-relief. The altar is a magnificent design of the Corinthian order; and the east window is richly ornamented

with stained glass, containing portraits of Edward the Sixth, Queen Elizabeth, James the First, Charles the First, and Charles the Second. The pulpit is justly admired for the elegance of its carving.

"This church," said Mr. Beresford, "received the name of *Undershaft* from the shaft or pole which used to be erected in the middle of the street on May-day, and was so high that it fairly out-topped the steeple. After the insurrection of the London apprentices, or what was called Evil May-day, the 'great shaft' was hung on a range of hooks over the doors of the neighbouring houses, without any further attempt to set it up as a May-pole; and about thirty years later it was cut in pieces, at the instigation of a popular preacher, who asserted that the inhabitants had made an idol of it, by sainting it together with the church."

In the register of this church are recorded the birth and baptism of one Freeman Sonds, son of Sir George Sonds, whose vindictive and revengeful spirit, roused by a dispute concerning some article of dress, prompted him to murder his elder brother. This monster of depravity wounded his unsuspecting victim, in the silence of midnight, with a cleaver, and completed his sanguinary work with a dagger. He then went to the bed of Sir George, and, shaking him by the shoulder, thun-

dered in his ear the soul-appalling intelligence that he had *killed his brother!* Thus was the unfortunate parent deprived of two sons; one by the inhuman act of a fratricide—the other by the hand of the executioner.

The most remarkable monument in this church is that of John Stowe, the justly celebrated historian of London, who, notwithstanding his merits and talents, lived in a great measure in obscurity, and died at the age of eighty. Such were the ignorance and prejudice of the age in which he lived, that after experiencing the terrors of the star-chamber, and being reduced to the necessity of soliciting, by brief, the charitable contributions of the city which he had so highly honoured, the parishioners of St. Mary Woolnoth, and the opulent inhabitants of Lombard Street, collected no greater sum for his use than *seven shillings and sixpence!!* In his monument he is represented sitting at a table, with his books before him.

## THE EAST INDIA HOUSE.

Mr. Beresford next directed the attention of the children towards the India House, an edifice which comprises the principal offices of the East India Company. It was originally founded in 1726, but

it has been so much enlarged and altered since 1798, that nothing of its former exterior now remains. The front, which is of Portland stone, is about two hundred feet in length, and possesses an air of united grandeur and simplicity. The portico is supported by six Ionic fluted columns, and the pediment with which it is crowned exhibits several allegorical figures, over whom his late Majesty appears to be extending a shield. Britannia and Liberty appear in the act of embracing each other; while, on one side, Mercury, attended by Navigation, is introducing Asia; and on the other, Religion, Justice, and Order appear, accompanied by Integrity and Industry, and the city barges. In the east and west angles are emblems of the rivers Ganges and Thames; and on the top of the pediment is a fine statue of Britannia, having a figure of Asia, seated on a camel, on the east, and another of Europe, on horseback, on the west.

The interior contains several noble apartments, and the new sale-room may be considered one of the curiosities of the Metropolis; it is adorned with elegant pilasters, and with several paintings illustrative of commerce. The old sale-room contains some fine statues; and the grand court-room is embellished with a fine bas-relief of Britannia, attended by Father Thames, and female figures sym-

bolical of India, Asia, and Africa, who are presenting their respective productions. The *library* contains a fine collection of Indian and Chinese manuscripts; and the adjoining *museum* is filled with Indian curiosities of every description.

"We must now," said Mr. Beresford, "endeavour to obtain a view of

## ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CORNHILL,

Which, though certainly inferior in point of architecture to the adjacent church of St. Michael, will be more interesting, my young friends, to you, as containing a monument to the memory of seven unfortunate children, who were all burnt to death in their father's house, in Leadenhall Street, on the 18th of January, 1782."

"O pray, let us go and see it," exclaimed Julia: "but, my dear uncle, how did this distressing accident happen?"

"The melancholy story," replied Mr. Beresford, "is simply this: Mr. Woodmason, the father of these unhappy victims, had gone, with several friends, to see the company of the ball-room at St. James's palace, it being her majesty's birth-day. Mrs. Woodmason, and the remainder of the family, consisting of seven children and three female

servants at home. It was customary with Mrs. Woodmason to visit her young family before she went to bed, and after doing so on the evening to which I have referred, she retired to her own chamber: she went, however, into another apartment for something which she wanted, and during her absence, one of the maids entered the room, and perceived that the curtains of the bed were on fire. Her screams brought back her mistress, who, in her fright, omitted to shut the chamber door, and fled to the other windows to alarm the populace; she then ran to open the street door, but by this time, the flames had formed an impassable barrier between the dear children and those who were solicitous to save them, and the whole seven perished."

By this time the little party had entered the church, and stood before the monument; but they were all so deeply affected that their tears rendered them almost incapable of reading the inscription. Mr. Beresford, therefore, shortened their visit at this church, and kindly introduced them to the shop of a neighbouring confectioner, where they partook of some acceptable refreshments, and thus recruited both their strength and spirits.

On quitting the shop, Mr. Beresford remarked, that Cornhill had, in ancient times, been the scene

of the famous *quintain!* though the fields were more usually occupied with that pastime.

"Pray, uncle," enquired Henry, "what do you mean by the *quintain?*"

"My love," replied Mr. Beresford, "it was a game of Roman origin, and in the olden time was considered the most gallant of youthful exercises. On an upright post was placed horizontally a cross bar, which turned upon a swivel, having a board nailed to one end, and a bag of sand to the other; against the board it was usual to tilt on horseback, with a spear or long staff, and it required considerable dexterity to avoid being struck by the bag of sand as it swung round. The greatest feat which could be accomplished at this game, was to break the board, and yet escape a blow from the bag of sand, and he who did this, was styled the prince or chief of the youths. On this subject, the antiquary Stowe observes, 'I have seen a *quintain* set up in Cornhill, where the attendants on the lord of merry disports have run and made great pastime; for he that hit not the board end of the quintain, was of all men laughed to scorn.'

"At the Easter holidays, a sort of water quintain afforded ample amusement on the river, where boats supplied the place of horses. The tilter stood with his lance in the stern, leaving the boat to be carried by the force of the stream against a

shield suspended from a pole; if he broke his lance without losing his footing in the boat, he was greeted with shouts of applause; but if, as was more frequently the case, the shock threw him into the water, he became an object of derision to the crowds of spectators, who occupied the bridges, the wharfs, and the houses by the river side.

"Some writers," continued Mr. Beresford, "make mention of the *living quintain;* and assert that, in the middle ages, military characters were in the habit of practising with their lances at a man completely armed, whose business it was to defend himself, and ward off their blows with his shield. They also inform us, that the human quintain was occasionally introduced merely for amusement, and without any reference to *military* exercise. Thus he who sustained the character was sometimes seated upon a three-legged stool, without any support behind, and the business of his assailant was to endeavour to overthrow him; while on his part, he was to turn aside the pole or lance with his shield, and thus occasion the fall of his adversary. At other times, neither shield nor lance was used, but the quintain; being seated as before, held up one of his feet, opposed to the foot of another man, who, standing on one leg, endeavoured to overthrow him; and sometimes the assailant was seated in a kind of swing, and drawn back by

a third person, so that when the rope was left at liberty, the man naturally came with great violence against the foot of his opponent, and no doubt frequently overturned him, to the great amusement of the spectators."

"Pray, uncle," enquired Elizabeth, "had this game any allusion to what was called tilting."

"Tilting, or running at the ring, my love," replied Mr. Beresford, "was nearly allied to the game I have been describing; and the principal difference seems to have consisted in the substitution of the *ring* for the quintain. The excellency of this pastime was to ride at full speed, and thrust the point of a lance through the ring, which was held by two springs in a sort of sheath, but might be easily driven out by the force of the stroke, and remain on the top of the lance. Three courses were allowed to each candidate, and he who thrust his lance through the ring, or struck it the oftenest, was pronounced the victor."

With many thanks for this intelligence, Henry and his companions now proceeded to the

## SOUTH SEA HOUSE;

The front of which, in Threadneedle Street, is of the Doric order, and very handsome. The several offices are judiciously disposed, and the great hall

for sales, the dining-room, galleries, and chambers, are beautiful and convenient. It was incorporated in 1710, to pay the arrears of the seamen in Queen Anne's wars.

## MERCHANT TAILORS' HALL.

"On the 17th of June, 1814," said Mr. Beresford, "the Allied Sovereigns did the Merchant Tailors the honour of dining at their Hall in Threadneedle Street. All the other halls having contributed to the show of plate exhibited on this occasion, it must have given the royal strangers high ideas of the opulence of the citizens of London. The present structure was erected soon after the fire of London; but was much altered and modernized between twenty and thirty years ago. It is a capacious but irregular brick edifice. The front exhibits a portal, consisting of an arched pediment, supported on columns of the composite order. In the pediment are the arms of the company.

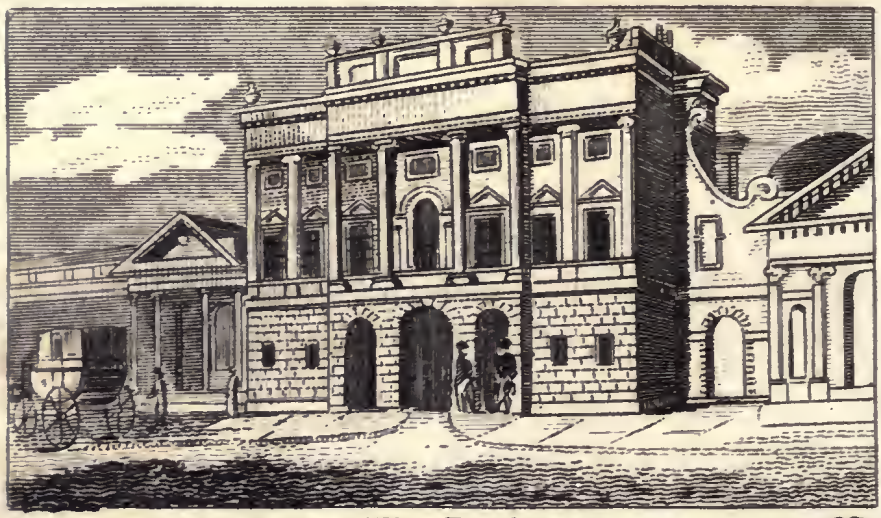
"In Stowe's Annals is an account of a grand entertainment given in this hall to King James the First, his son Henry, and many of the nobility and gentry, on the 16th of July, 1607. 'Against their coming,' says our author, 'the lord mayor was in attendance, and at the hall gate presented his majesty with the sword, which, on being returned,

was borne before him into the large dining-room. Here the king was feasted royally, and afterwards presented with a purse of gold by the master; the clerk of the hall shewing him, at the same time, a roll of all the dignified members that had ever belonged to this company. The purse was graciously received by the monarch; who, in return, stated that he was himself free of another company, but that the prince, his eldest son, should become a Merchant Tailor, and that he would be an eye-witness when the garland should be placed on his head. Then all descended into the great hall, where the prince had dined; and he, having first been presented with a purse of gold, and having seen the roll, declared that he would become a freeman. He also desired the clerk and one of his gentlemen to go to all the lords present, and require all of them who loved him, and were not free of other companies, to be made free of this company. This was, of course, complied with; and James, during the whole ceremony, stood and beheld all with a gracious aspect.'"

"Of what other company," enquired Edward, "was King James a freeman?"

"Of the Cloth-workers," replied Mr. Beresford, "and I think I can tell you the particulars of that circumstance. The king had been dining, in the year 1607, with Sir John Watts, who had then

*Excise Office.* page 79.



*The Bank.* page 81.

*The Auction Mart.* page 83.

*Published Nov. 20. 1818. by J. Harris. Corner of St. Pauls.*

the honour of filling the civic chair. When his majesty was about to retire, Sir John, emboldened by the freedom of conviviality, intreated him to go and be made free of the Cloth-workers' Company. James readily consented, and the lord-mayor immediately conducted him to the hall in Mincing Lane. To the master, wardens, and assistants, who received him, his majesty addressed himself in the most gracious manner, and enquired who was the master of the company? The lord mayor presented Sir William Stone. 'Sir William,' said the monarch, 'wilt thou make me free of the cloth-workers?' 'Yes,' replied the master, 'and think myself a happy man that I live to see the day.' 'Give me thy hand, then,' said James, 'and now I am a cloth-worker.' His majesty then called for bread and wine, and said, 'Now I drink to all my good brethren the cloth-workers, and I pray God to bless them all. And as a proof of special favour to the fraternity, I do here give unto this company two brace of bucks annually for ever, against the day of the election of the master and wardens.'"

## EXCISE OFFICE.

"We now, my dear children, come to the Excise Office, in Broad Street, a plain but large and elegant stone building. The front stands on the

site of ten alms-houses, founded by Sir Thomas Gresham, in 1575. This is the principal office of excise in his majesty's dominions, and the business is conducted by nine commissioners, within and without. They receive the duties on beer, ale, and spirituous liquors; on tea, coffee, malt, hops, soap, starch, candles, paper, and a variety of other commodities."

## DRAPERS' HALL, IN THROGMORTON STREET.

"The present edifice was built on the site of a large mansion, erected in the time of Henry the Eighth, by Thomas Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Essex. It consists of a spacious quadrangle, including an open court, which has a broad piazza surrounding it, and exhibits a series of arches, enriched with lions' heads and other sculptured ornaments. The ascent to the hall is by an elegant staircase, highly embellished with stucco work, gilding, &c. The stately screen of this magnificent apartment is curiously decorated with carved pillars, pilasters, and arches; and the ceiling, divided into compartments, chiefly circular, displays in the centre a representation of Phaëton in his car, surrounded by the signs of the zodiac. Above the screen, at the opposite end of the hall, is a masterly

picture of the immortal Nelson, by Sir William Beechey, for which the company gave four hundred guineas."

The court-room afforded the young people much amusement from the paintings and decorations. Little Julia was much struck by an interesting picture of a lady with light-coloured hair, laced ruff, and a close black habit, richly ornamented; her hand was placed on the head of a little boy in a reddish-coloured vest of closely wrought pattern, and holding a flower. This picture, which has been engraved by Bartolozzi, is supposed to represent Mary Queen of Scots and her son James, afterwards king of England.

## THE BANK.

"We will enter this magnificent structure by the Lothbury side," said Mr. Beresford, "as it there exhibits architectural designs after some of the best specimens of Greece and Rome. From the return on the west side, in Princes Street, to the east in Bartholomew Lane, they are of a similar character; both the order and forms were copied from the Temple of Sibyls, at Tivoli. The whole circuit contains nine open courts, a spacious rotunda, court and committee rooms, numerous public offices, library, printing-office, &c.; besides

private apartments. The chief suite of rooms is on the ground-floor, beneath which, and even below the surface of the ground, there are more buildings and a greater number of rooms than in the entire superstructure. At the west end of the pay hall is the statue of King William, by Cheere, with a Latin inscription. The clock is a most ingenious piece of mechanism, intended to obviate the inconvenience from clocks differing with each other several minutes, which can never be the case with this, as the hands on the dials, in the different offices, are all moved by the same machine. The whole communication is carried on by means of brass rods. The principal weight to this clock is about three hundred and fifty pounds, and it is wound up twice a week. It was made by Messrs. Thwaites and Reid, of Rosamond Street, Clerkenwell.

"I cannot quit this place," said Mr. Beresford, "without reminding you, my dear children, that the life of the late Abraham Newland, Esq. who was chief cashier to the Bank of England for more than five and twenty years, affords a striking example of the beneficial consequences resulting from persevering industry and attention to business. He was the son of a respectable baker in Castle Street, Southwark; and, having been educated for the business of a counting-house, he was ad-

mitted as a junior clerk into the Bank before he had attained the age of eighteen. Here he performed the duties of his office with such attention and assiduity, that he soon attracted the notice of his superiors, and was progressively advanced through the different gradations of the establishment till he was appointed chief cashier. A suit of apartments within the Bank was now appropriated to his use, and such were the regularity of his habits and his devotion to official business, that he was never known to absent himself for a single night, till the time of his resignation, in September 1807. On the 21st of November, in the same year, he died at Highbury Place, Islington, leaving property to the amount of about six thousand per annum, which he had obtained chiefly by successful speculations in the funds. Like myself," added Mr. Beresford, "he was an old bachelor; but many instances of his liberality to his poor relatives and others have been recorded."

## AUCTION MART.

"This new commercial edifice is situated partly in Bartholomew Lane, and partly in Throgmorton Street. Though grand and imposing in its appearance, it may be considered as offering a specimen of architecture simply elegant; and is highly creditable

to a young artist, Mr. John Walters. The Lord Mayor of London laid the first stone of the building in September, 1808. The Auction Mart affords the most prompt information of every denomination of property to be sold. In the grand saloon, the public may exhibit their advertisements, bearing reference to any kind of property here specified, both for private and public sale."

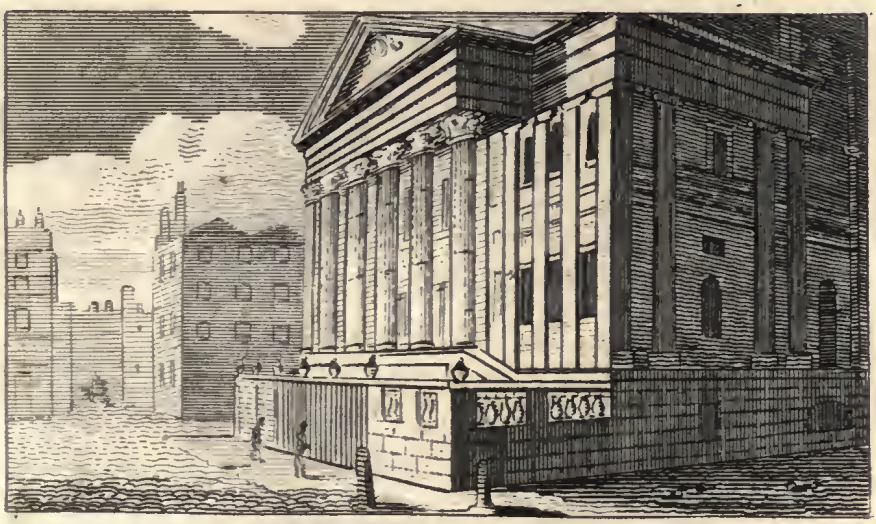
## THE STOCK EXCHANGE

"Is opposite the east entrance of the Bank, at the upper end of Capel Court. It is a neat plain building, fronted with stone to the attic story, which is of brick, and erected in 1801 by Mr. James Peacock, the architect. Under the clock is a tablet, exhibiting the names of such defaulters as have not been able, or willing, to make their payments good for the purchase or transfer of stock, and who are not allowed to become members any more."

## ROYAL EXCHANGE.

"View this building with attention, my children," said Mr. Beresford, "as it is the general place of commercial resort for the London merchants, and is situated, as you perceive, on the

*Interior of the Royal Exchange.* page 84.



*The Mansion House.* page 86.

*St. Stephens, Walbrook.* page 88.

*Published Nov. 20, 1818, by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

northern side of Cornhill. A few centuries ago the front of the Royal Exchange was the site of a loathsome dungeon house, called the Tun. The merchants, previous to the reign of Elizabeth, used to meet in Lombard Street, and, exposed to all the changes of the weather, transact their business in the open air. It was originally built by Sir Thomas Gresham, one of the greatest merchants in this, or any other country, after the model of that at Antwerp. Being destroyed by the fire of London, in 1666, it was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren. There are many beauties, and but few defects in the architecture. The statues of Charles I. and II. in the front, are beautifully executed; and there are also statues of most of the sovereigns of England. The rooms over the colonnades are let out to the Royal Exchange Insurance Company, the office of the Lord Mayor's court, and Lloyd's Coffee House, and for reading the Gresham Lectures. The merchants who frequent Lloyd's are of the first consequence, and the news there is most to be relied on. Here also subscriptions are set on foot for the greatest national purposes. The crest of Sir Thomas Gresham, a grasshopper, is on the top of the lantern, which rises from the centre of the south side 178 feet high. This noble and useful edifice has recently undergone a complete repair."

## THE MANSION HOUSE

Next claimed attention, as being the temporary residence of the Lord Mayor. It is a building of considerable magnificence; but from its confined situation, appears heavy and gloomy. In the front is a wide and lofty portico of six fluted Corinthian columns. The portico rests upon a low story, built in rustic; in the centre is a gate leading to the kitchen and other offices. A flight of steps rising on each side, leads to the grand entrance. The pediment is richly decorated with a group of figures, emblematical of the wealth and grandeur of London. The grand entrance opens into the saloon, which leads also into the Egyptian hall, though no vestige of Egyptian character is to be seen in its whole extent. This chamber, when entertainments are given here, is splendidly illuminated by girandoles and lustres; its length, from east to west, is more than ninety feet, its breadth upwards of sixty feet. The ball-room and the withdrawing room, are the chief apartments on the second story. Many sumptuous entertainments have been given in this mansion, and the princes of the blood royal, and the first nobility in the land, have been banqueted here with the greatest pomp.

" As you have never seen the ceremony of Lord

*Lord Mayors Day.* page 87.

*Bartholomew Fair.* page 109.

*Published Oct.r 1 1824. by J. Harris, corner of St. Pauls.*

Mayor's Day," said Mr. Beresford, "I will give you a short account of it. On the ninth of November the Lord Mayor for the past year, and the one recently elected, proceed from the Mansion House in coaches, richly gilt and painted, and drawn by six horses to the Three Crane Stairs, Queenhithe. In the state-coach of the latter are placed on low seats, with their faces towards the windows, the sword and mace-bearers, carrying the insignia of their offices. The procession is continued by the aldermen, sheriffs, common councilmen, and livery men. The carriages of the sheriffs are mostly decorated with great elegance, and the different Companies follow on foot, with flags emblazoned with their arms, and other tokens of their profession. The Armorers are generally preceded by two or three men on horseback, in different sorts of showy armour; and these are considered, by many, as forming the most attractive part of the spectacle. The City Marshal, with kettle-drums, the rest of the city officers, &c. add to the appearance of the show. From Queenhithe, barges, gilt and richly decorated, belonging to the Lord Mayor and several of the Companies, convey his Lordship and attendants to Westminster Hall, where he is sworn into his office. This ceremony ended, the procession returns by water to Blackfriars, where it disembarks. It then proceeds to Guildhall, where

a splendid dinner is provided, at which it is customary to see princes of the blood, distinguished members of administration, many representatives of the first families in the kingdom, and about a thousand other persons, all of whom are admitted by tickets from the Lord Mayor or one of the Sheriffs. In ancient times, when a Merry-Andrew formed a part of the civic entertainment, the Lord Mayor's fool had a singular feat to perform after dinner, for the entertainment of the company. He was bound, by the tenure of his office, to leap, in his motley dress, into a large bowl of custard; a jest so well suited to former times, that frequent repetition did not render it wearisome.

"At present, the festivities of the day are terminated by a splendid ball, at which the Lady Mayoress is expected to preside."

"We must now turn aside," said Mr. Beresford, "to take a view of the exquisitely beautiful church of

## ST. STEPHEN'S, WALBROOK,

Which is considered the masterpiece of Sir Christopher Wren, and is said to exceed every modern edifice in the world, both in proportion and elegance. The plan though simple, is original;—the elevation is surprising, yet chaste and beautiful;

*Interior of Guildhall.* page 89.

*Southwark Bridge.* page 97.

*Christs Hospital.* page 102.

*Published Nov. 20. 1808, by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

and the dome, supported by eight arches, springing from eight single columns, is wonderfully light and elegant in its effect. The interior is also strikingly beautiful, and the appearance of the whole has a fine effect upon entering; every part at once attracting the eye, except the bases of the columns, which are concealed by the carving on the top of the pews. The pulpit is finely carved and veneered, and has enrichments of cherubim, festoons, &c. and over the altar is a beautiful historical painting, by B. West, Esq. of the stoning of St. Stephen."

## GUILDHALL.

"We will now," said Mr. Beresford, "examine the original hall for the transaction of the public business of the city of London, which is an extensive, but irregular pile of buildings, partly stone, and partly brick, situated at the north end of King Street, Cheapside. The great hall, though divested of its original roof, retains much of its ancient grandeur. It is one hundred and fifty-four feet in length, and fifty-two in breadth, and fifty-five in height, and is capable of containing from six to seven thousand persons. The east end of the hall is appropriated for holding the court of hustings, and the window at this end is of painted glass, and modern. The west end exhibits another magnificent

window, at each angle of which are two gigantic figures, called *Gog* and *Magog;* though it is not easy to say which is intended for Gog, or which represents Magog, as there is considerable similarity between them. Both are immensely large and mis-shapen; both have long flowing beards, and still longer flowing sashes; both have their brows encircled with a wreath of laurel, and their feet bound in sandals; both are armed with a pole or spear, and a sword; and both are plentifully bedaubed with paint of different colours. The principal difference between them is, that one rests his left hand on a shield emblazoned with a spread eagle, and the other has a bow and quiver at his back. Some say they are designed to represent a Roman and an ancient Briton; others assert that they are the statues of two Cornish giants; and the nursery tradition concerning them is, that every day *when they hear the clock strike twelve*, they come down into the hall to dinner!"

Mr. Beresford now called the attention of the elder children to the fine monuments erected to Lord Nelson and Alderman Beckford: the latter is in the attitude of addressing the king on the subject of the City remonstrance. There are likewise splendid monuments to the memory of the Earl of Chatham and his no less celebrated son, Mr. Pitt. In the common council-chamber is a fine collection

of paintings, presented to the City of London by Alderman Boydell. "I have already told you, my dears, that on Lord Mayor's Day, a grand dinner is generally prepared for the occasion in Guildhall. Here also the Prince Regent, with his exalted visitors, the sovereigns of Russia and Prussia, dined on the 18th of June, 1814, with the corporation of London, when the procession was the same as at a first visit of the King to the city. The Lord Mayor stood behind the Prince Regent, who took the chair, supported on each side by the two monarchs."

As the whole of our little party were by this time completely fatigued, Mr. Beresford called a hackney-coach from the stand in King Street, and returned to his own residence; promising the children, that, if the morning proved favourable, he would bring them again to Cheapside on the morrow, and resume their perambulations.

Mrs. Tabitha Plainway had provided a substantial dinner against the return of her master and his young visitors; and it now became evident that she had not miscalculated on the effects of their long walk. When the cloth was removed, William reminded his uncle, that, in describing the ancient game called the *quintain*, he had spoken of the *lord of merry disports*, and he now requested some account of that personage.

"O do tell us about *him*, my dear uncle," said little Julia, "for I love to hear about any thing that is *merry*."

"I shall feel happy, my dear children," said Mr. Beresford, "to afford you any information in my power; and I am glad that my nephew has asked this question now we are at home; because by referring to a favourite old author, I shall be enabled to answer it satisfactorily."

Mr. Beresford then stepped into the library, and returned with a volume, from which he read the following particulars:

"At the feast of Christmas, in his majesty's court, there was appointed a *lord of misrule*, or master of merry disports; and the same merry fellow was considered a necessary appendage in the house of every nobleman and person of distinction; and, among the rest, the lord mayor and sheriffs of London had each of them their lord of *disports*, ever contending, without quarrel or offence, who should invent the drollest pastimes to entertain the spectators. This mock prince began his reign at Allhallow eve, and remained in power till the morrow after the Purification; during which time there was a complete series of disguisings, masks, and mummeries.

"The lord of disports, however, does not seem to have been confined to the houses of the great,

nor was it invariably the custom that his reign should be confined to the Christmas holidays; but on some occasions, he was elected in various parishes of the country, and evidently presided over the sports of summer, as will appear from the following remarks of an author who wrote towards the close of the sixteenth century.

" 'First of all, the wild heads of the parish flock together, in order to choose a captain of mischief, whom they crown with great solemnity, and adopt as the *king* or *lord* of *misrule*. This mock potentate then chooses from twenty to a hundred lusty fellows to wait upon him and guard his person. Each of these men, he invests with his livery of green, yellow, or some other gaudy colour; and they usually bedeck themselves with ribands, scarfs, and laces, ornamented with gold rings, coloured stones, &c. They then tie from twenty to forty bells about each of their legs, and throw across their necks or shoulders, some rich handkerchiefs, borrowed from their female acquaintance. They have also their hobby-horses, dragons, and other antiques, together with their noisy pipers and thundering drummers, to strike up the merry dance. Then march this heathen company towards the church, their pipers piping, their drummers thundering, their stumps dancing, their bells jingling, their handkerchiefs

fluttering in the wind, and their hobby-horses and other monsters skirmishing among the throng: and in this manner they enter the church, even whilst the minister is officiating, and make such a confused noise with their dancing and singing, that no one can hear his own voice; then the foolish people stare and laugh, and mount upon the forms and pews to see these pageants solemnized. Then, after this, the motley crew go into the church-yard, to their arbours, bowers, and banquetting-houses; where they feast and dance during the remainder of the day, and sometimes through the night.

"'What are called "my lord of misrule's badges," are pieces of paper painted with some childish figures; and these are presented to every one that will give them money to maintain them in their revelry. And so besotted are some people, that they actually wear those badges in their hats or caps; and in addition to their gifts of money, they present the lord of misrule and his accomplices, some bread, cheese, or ale; some cakes, tarts, or custards; some meat; some one thing, and some another: those, on the other hand, who do not encourage them, are mocked and shamefully treated, being carried upon a staff, and dived over head and ears in water, or otherwise most horridly abused.'"

All the children thanked Mr. Beresford for this account; but all of them, except the laughter-loving Julia, expressed their astonishment that such scenes of confusion should ever have been permitted to disgrace a parish church.

"Your surprise, my dear children," said Mr. Beresford, "is perfectly natural; but in ancient times a festival was allowed, called the *festival of fools,* in which the most solemn rites of the then established church were turned into ridicule, and the clergy themselves participated in the most absurd and impious profanations. In each of the cathedral churches there was a *bishop,* and in the churches immediately dependant on the See of Rome, a *pope of fools,* who had a suit of ecclesiastics attending upon them, habited in the dresses of players and buffoons; these were accompanied by crowds of the laity, some disguised with hideous masks, and others having their faces smutted; in one instance to terrify the spectators, and in the other to excite laughter. During the performance of divine service, part of this motley group were heard singing profane songs in the choir, whilst others employed themselves in eating, and drinking, and playing at dice, upon the altar, by the side of the priest, who was celebrating mass! After the service, they usually put some filth in the censors, and ran about the church

leaping, dancing, singing, and laughing, in the most riotous and indecent manner. The *bishop of fools* was habited in the sacred vestments, and gave his blessing to the people on their quitting the church; after which he was seated in an open carriage, and drawn through different parts of the town, attended by an immense crowd of clergy and laity mingled together, and alike guilty of the most childish and unbecoming conduct. These spectacles were always exhibited at, or near Christmas; and one part of the entertainment consisted in shaving the *precentor of fools*, upon a stage erected before the church, in the presence of the mob. These you will acknowledge were properly styled religious *mummeries.*"

Thankful for their uncle's information, but disgusted with such a picture of absurdity and impiety, the little party now assembled round the tea-table: and, after an evening spent in cheerful conversation, they retired to rest, with the pleasing anticipation of resuming their examination of the British Metropolis on the ensuing day.

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The next morning proved as fine as our little party could have desired; and, after partaking of an early breakfast, they all entered the car-

riage, which Mr. Beresford ordered to be driven to Queen Street, Cheapside; here they alighted, and proceeded to

## THE SOUTHWARK BRIDGE.

Which was begun on the 23d of September, 1814, and completed in the month of March 1819, at an expense of 800,000*l.*, including the avenues. This beautiful and stupendous structure consists of three arches of cast iron, resting on stone piers and abutments, the latter of which are upwards of 700 feet distant from each other. The extent of each abutment enclosed, including the land and inverted arch, is 71 feet, formed of solid masonry. There are two piers 60 feet high from the bottom of the river to the top of the parapet, and 24 feet in breadth between the marks of high and low water. The foundations of these piers are about 12 feet below the bed of the river, and rest on a platform of strong timber, supported by about 420 piles, most of which are driven 24 feet into the earth. The space of each of the side arches is 210 feet, and that of the centre arch 240, with a clear opening of 43 feet above low water mark. The centre arch, therefore, is the largest in the world; as it exceeds the celebrated bridge of Sunderland by

four feet in the span, and the admired Rialto at Venice by 167 feet.

On quitting this interesting bridge and returning through Queen Street, Mr. Beresford directed the attention of his young companions to

## CHEAPSIDE,

As having been in "the olden time" the scene of many spectacles, pageants, and splendid processions. "It was here," said he, "that the anger of Edward the First was excited by an accident which happened at a solemn jousting or tournament, in the year 1329. The lists, as Stowe informs us, were appointed between the great cross at the end of Wood Street, and the great conduit near Soper Lane, which is now styled Queen Street; and across the road near Wood Street was erected a stately scaffold resembling a tower, in which the Queen Philippa and the principal ladies of her court were seated to view the spectacle. The tournament continued three days, but before they ended, the scaffold unfortunately gave way, and the Queen and many of her ladies were precipitated to the ground, though they did not receive any serious injury. Edward was so highly incensed at this occurrence, that he threatened the builders with exemplary punishment; but his amiable

Queen, recollecting the warm reception which she had received from the citizens on her first entering London, fell on her knees before him, and obtained their pardon.

"In the year 1356 Edward the Black Prince (so called from the colour of his armour) passed through this street," added Mr. Beresford, "in triumphal procession, accompanied by his royal captive, John King of France, whom he treated with the most generous respect. On this occasion more than a thousand citizens rode on horseback, richly accoutred, and accompanied by the lord mayor, sheriffs, and all the city companies, with stately pageants. All the horses were adorned with hangings of tapestry and streamers of silk; whilst a profusion of gold and silver plate was exhibited, to denote the wealth of many of the inhabitants; and the various implements of war were displayed from the windows and balconies, in order to convey some idea of the warlike character of the nation. As a striking proof of the modesty of the victorious prince on this memorable occasion, his prisoner was arrayed in royal robes and mounted on a magnificent white courser, whilst Edward rode by his side in a plain dress and on a small black horse, till they arrived at Westminster Hall, where the British monarch, seated on a throne, and surrounded by his nobles, awaited their arrival.

"The reign of Henry VIII. was particularly distinguished by its pageantry and processions; and a respectable historian has justly observed, that 'if the sober part of society were shocked by the way in which this Blue Beard of English history got rid of his wives, the more frivolous found a temporary gratification in the splendour attendant on his marriages.' This was particularly displayed at the coronation of the beautiful but unfortunate Anna Boleyn. The lord mayor received orders to conduct her majesty, by water, from Greenwich to the Tower, with suitable magnificence, and to make preparations for her passing through the city, on her way to Westminster. Accordingly fifty barges, superbly ornamented, and furnished with bands of music, attended the barge of the chief magistrate, which was lined with gold brocade, and preceded by another carrying figures of savages, dragons, and ideal beings, vomiting fire and smoke. In another barge was the representation of a mount, on which stood a white falcon perched on a golden stump, encircled with red and white roses, symbolical of the union of the houses of York and Lancaster, and attended by beautiful nymphs, singing, and playing on musical instruments. After resting two days at the Tower, her majesty proceeded through the city with still greater magnificence. She was received at the

gates of the Tower by the lord mayor and all the companies in their formalities. The litter or chair in which the queen was carried was completely covered with silver tissue, and preceded by the judges, knights of the Bath, barons, bishops, earls, and marquisses, in their robes. The lovely Anna was dressed in a silver brocade, richly trimmed with ermine, and her head was decorated with an elegant chaplet of jewels. Her chamberlain and the ladies of her court followed their royal mistress, and the procession was closed by a numerous party of guards. In Fenchurch Street a beautiful pageant of children congratulated the queen on her arrival; in Gracechurch Street was placed a representation of the mountain Parnassus with the fountain of Helicon, which flowed with Rhenish wine; and at the upper end of this street (Cheapside) the recorder addressed her majesty in an elegant speech, and presented her with one thousand marks wrapped in a piece of gold tissue.

"The compliment of a city pageant was also paid to Queen Elizabeth the day before her coronation, and a similar sum of money was presented to her, in Cheapside, in a purse of crimson velvet, as a token of loyalty and affection. The queen returned thanks in the most graceful manner, and assured her loving citizens that, if necessity should occur, she would shed her blood for their safety.

At another stage of her progress a beautiful boy, the representative of Truth, was lowered from a triumphal arch, and presented his sovereign with a copy of the Bible. She received the volume with engaging condescension, placed it in her bosom, and said she considered it as the most precious gift, as, of all others, it was the most acceptable."

From Newgate Street, to which our party had now proceeded, they turned aside to take a view of

## CHRIST'S HOSPITAL,

Which, though an old and very irregular edifice, is justly considered as an honour to the British metropolis. It appears to have been built on the ancient site of a convent of Grey Friars, and was founded by Edward the Sixth for the maintenance and education of poor children. They wear a blue cloth coat, with the head of Edward VI. on the buttons; and under the coat they have a sort of petticoat of yellow, with brown breeches, and yellow stockings. They have also a small worsted cap, and a leather girdle buckled closely round the waist. The great hall is a spacious apartment, rebuilt after the fire of London, at the sole expense of one benevolent individual. Here is a picture of the royal founder, attended by Bishop Ridley, in the act of delivering the charter to the

lord mayor and aldermen of London, who are in their robes, kneeling. Here also is a painting of unusually large dimensions, representing James the Second, surrounded by his nobles, receiving the president and governors, with several children of the hospital.

Writing and arithmetic are taught here in all their branches, to qualify the pupils for a mercantile business; many of them are also instructed in the mathematics, to fit them for naval pursuits; and a few are educated for the church, and sent to the Universities. The younger children are sent to a preparatory school at Hertford before they enter into this hospital; and the girls remain there till their education is completed.

A most interesting scene is exhibited every Sunday evening from Christmas to Easter, in the great hall of this hospital, to which strangers may be admitted by tickets. All the children sup together precisely at six o'clock; when the ceremony commences by three strokes of a hammer, intended to enforce silence. One of the senior boys reads a chapter, after which prayers are read and a hymn is sung; all the pupils standing. The steward, master, matron, &c. occupy the north end of the hall, and the opposite end is appropriated to the accommodation of the spectators. When supper is finished the doors of the wards are thrown open,

and a procession is formed in the following order:—the nurse; a boy, carrying two lighted candles; several pupils with trays and bread-baskets; and the others in pairs, who all bow respectfully as they pass the company.

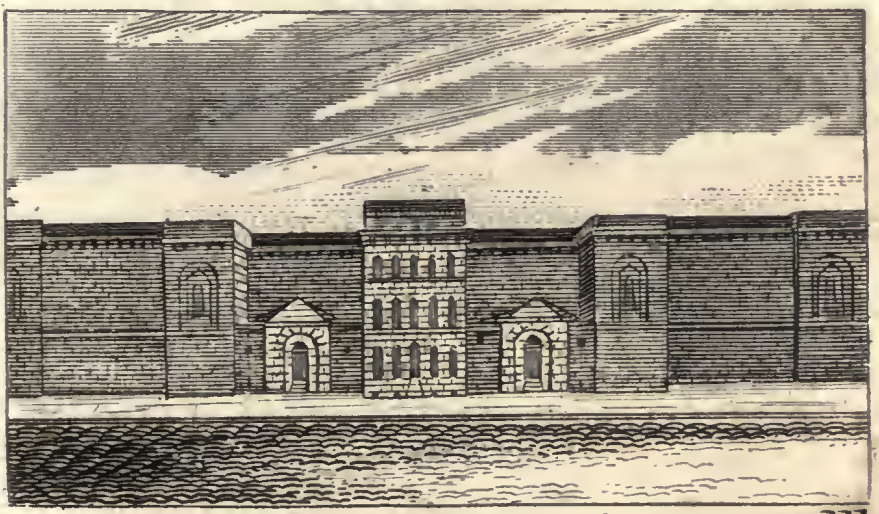
A passage from the writing-school through the cloisters now led the youthful party to the

## HOSPITAL OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

Which consists of four piles of building, surrounding a spacious court, and joined together by stone gateways. One of these piles comprises a large hall for the governors at general courts, a counting-house for the committees, and other offices. The other three piles consist of wards for the reception of patients.

The principal entrance, on the east side of Smithfield, consists of a large arch, over which is a statue of Henry the Eighth standing between two Corinthian pillars, and surmounted by a circular pediment, adorned with two figures designed to represent lameness and sickness. In the interior of the edifice utility seems to have been studied rather than ornament. The staircase, however, is enriched with some of the finest efforts of Hogarth's pencil, done at his own expense. From a survey of the old buildings in the reign of George the

*S.t Bartholomews Hospital.* *page* 104.



*Newgate.* *page* 111.

*New Surgeons Hall.* *page* 118.

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Second, in 1730, it was deemed necessary to erect an entire new structure, upon the present plan, which was accordingly done, to the credit and honour of the nation. This hospital will ever remain a monument of the piety of its original founder, Rahere, who was minstrel or jester to Henry the First. Grown weary of the gay offices of his station, he founded a priory, and dedicated it to St. Bartholomew. He afterwards obtained from the king a piece of waste ground, adjacent, for an hospital for the sick and maimed, placing it under the care of the priory. Over the chimney-piece of the great hall is a picture of St. Bartholomew, with a knife, the symbol of his martyrdom, in his hand.

Of the extensive good done by this institution, some idea may be formed from the annual return for 1820; by which it appears that 9757 persons, including in and out-patients, had been cured and discharged, and that 810 others remained under cure, which, together with 314 buried, formed a total for that year of 10,881 patients.

Mr. Beresford now conducted his young visitors into

## SMITHFIELD,

Which he told them was particularly worthy of their attention, as having been the scene, at different times, of important events, splendid festivities, and

dolorous sufferings. "It was here," said Mr. Beresford, "that the rebel Wat Tyler, in a conference with the youthful monarch Richard the Second, behaved with such abominable insolence, that William Walworth, Lord Mayor of London, struck him with a dagger, and laid him lifeless at his feet. When the insurgents saw their leader fall, they vowed to avenge his death, and actually bent their bows against the king and his attendants. Richard, however, though not fifteen years of age, boldly rode towards the rebels, and told them they should not want a leader, as he himself would be their general. Supposing that he intended to grant all their demands, they followed him to St. George's Fields; but finding themselves suddenly opposed by a body of cavalry, consisting of about a thousand citizens, they were seized with such a panic that they threw down their arms and fled in all directions; whilst the courageous Walworth and several of the aldermen were knighted on the field, for their timely and important services.

"Smithfield was also the scene of many splendid tournaments, one of the most celebrated of which took place on Richard the Second coming of age. It was fixed to be held on the first Sunday after Michaelmas, and his majesty previously sent heralds to proclaim it in all the principal courts of Europe. Several sovereigns accepted the sum-

mons, and on the day appointed the champions, riding on sixty beautiful coursers, set out from the Tower to Smithfield; each knight was attended by an esquire, and led by a lady riding on a palfrey to the place of combat. When they reached the destined spot, the knights began the tournament by running at each other with their lances, thirty on a side, in the presence of the king and queen, who were spectators of the ceremony. The jousts, which succeeded, continued four days, from morning till night, and every evening concluded with a splendid banquet, enlivened by music and dancing."

"What was the difference, my dear uncle," enquired Matilda, "between the tournaments and the jousts?"

"The *joust*, my love," said Mr. Beresford, "differed materially from the tournament, the former being often included in the latter, and usually took place when the grand conflict was terminated. It was also a trial of skill between *two* combatants only, in which spears, without iron heads, were used instead of swords; and the excellence of the performance consisted in striking the antagonist upon the front of his helmet, so as to throw him backwards from his horse, or to break the spear. These pastimes were so highly esteemed in the time of our forefathers, that even the playthings put into the

hands of children of rank were designed to illustrate them." Mr. Beresford then took from his pocket-book a curious engraving representing two views of a knight on horseback completely equipped for the joust. "These," said he, "are two of the toys which I have mentioned, and it seems they were so contrived that the man might be thrown backward by a smart blow on his helmet or on the top of his shield, and replaced with perfect facility. In playing with them the two toys were drawn suddenly together upon a table, and by the striking of the spears against the shields or helmets one or both of the riders were generally dismounted."

Julia was highly delighted with this picture, and expressed an earnest wish that such playthings were now in fashion; but her vivacity subsided, and her eyes glistened with tears on her uncle proceeding to state, that in the centre of Smithfield many persons had been cruelly burned to death for their attachment to the Protestant religion.

"Well, well," said Mr. Beresford, "I will drop this painful subject, and tell you that this place is, at present, principally famed for its markets of cattle, which are held every Monday and Friday in the year, and for the frolics of Bartholomew Fair, which are annually repeated with the commencement of September."

"Oh!" exclaimed Elizabeth, "I have heard of Bartholomew Fair, and should like, of all things, to see it."

"Perhaps then," rejoined her uncle, "you may be pleased with some verses which I met with some time ago, and committed to memory. They are called the

## SCENES OF BARTHOLOMEW FAIR.

The third of September, my lads, is the day
When in Smithfield appears the Lord Mayor,
In splendid procession and costly array,
With his coach richly gilded, and horses so gay,
Whilst a posse of constables cry, 'Clear the way!'
To proclaim the Bartholomew fair.

Then great is the tumult, and loud is the noise,
Drums, trumpets, and fiddles all playing;
And great, without doubt, for a time, are the joys
Of the throng of spectators, men, women, and boys,
Who the gingerbread stalls, or the booths fill'd with toys,
Or the numerous shows are surveying.

Dwarfs, giants, wild beasts, learned pigs, and what not,
With monsters whose names I can't mention,
Are proudly display'd on this comical spot;
Whilst apples and oysters, all sold by the lot,
Fried sausages, salmon, and pies smoking hot,
Are sure to excite much attention.

Here one from his mouth yards of ribbon draws out,
Another eats boiling-hot lead;
A third nimble fellow, a stranger to gout,
And train'd to his humorous calling, no doubt,
With laughable postures comes cap'ring about,
And at last stands erect on his head.

And when the day closes, a brilliant scene
Illumines the darkness of night,—
For thousands of lamps, yellow, white, blue, and green,
Arrang'd with much taste, and all perfectly clean,
With num'rous transparent devices between,
Pour forth a profusion of light.

Yet now is the time for the wise to retreat,
If the poet's advice they will bear;
For pick-pocket rogues they may otherwise meet,
Who, in walking, may probably trip up their feet,
And leave them, both robb'd and ill us'd, in the street,
To lament o'er Bartholomew fair."

The children having thanked their kind uncle for repeating these lines, which afforded them a tolerable idea of the scenery and amusements, as well as the dangers, of the fair, proceeded to the parish church of

## ST. SEPULCHRE.

"This church," said Mr. Beresford, "is of very ancient foundation, but little of its external parts remains to indicate any thing of the original structure. The walls are square, stone and brick, strengthened with buttresses. The high venerable western tower is also square, and has four modern spires with vanes. The windows in the tower are pointed, those in the nave round and modern. Several trees planted in the church-yard add greatly to the beauty of the view. A solemn exhortation was formerly given from the wall, by the bell-men, to the condemned criminals, as they passed in the cart to the place of execution at Tyburn. Nothing, however, takes place now, except the tolling of the bell at Newgate."

## NEWGATE.

"This prison, which takes its name from the city gate which formerly stood near the spot, is the gaol for the county of Middlesex. It is a massy stone building, in two parts, one of which was formerly appropriated to debtors, but at present none but criminals are confined here. The Sessions House is separated from this building by a square court, which contains the shed for the

gallows, or drop. Newgate Market is a large square, surrounded by butchers' shops, &c. The upper part of the market-house is chiefly occupied by fruiterers and gardeners." As the party proceeded up Skinner Street, Mr. Beresford told his young companions that the magnificent houses they then saw were raised on the site of old ones, from a plan of the late Alderman Picket. "Seacoal Lane, on the south side of Skinner Street," said he, "contains a steep flight of steps, called Breakneck Steps, ascending to Green Arbour Court, where Goldsmith resided when he composed the Vicar of Wakefield."

## FURNIVAL'S INN

Was formerly the residence of the Lords Furnival, which family became extinct in the reign of Richard the Second. The front next Holborn was a fine specimen of old brick work, adorned with pilasters and mouldings, and a handsome arched gateway. In the year 1819 it was taken down, and rebuilt in a very handsome style.

## STAPLES INN

Consists of two courts and a pleasant garden. It was formerly a hall where wool merchants used to meet. It is now an inn of chancery.

## LINCOLN'S INN.

"This," observed Mr. Beresford, "is one of the principal inns of court, and Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, is said to have introduced here students of the law as early as the year 1310. The buildings form a spacious square, two sides of which are occupied by the hall and the chapel; and in the erection of these edifices it is said that Ben Jonson was employed as a labouring bricklayer. The former is a handsome room, 62 feet long and 32 broad, in which the Lord Chancellor sits out of term-time. The latter was erected from designs by Inigo Jones, and is richly ornamented with painted glass, illustrative of various scriptural subjects. The Vice-Chancellor's court is contiguous to the hall, and was erected in 1816. On the east side of the gardens is a handsome range of houses, called Stone Buildings, from the material with which they are erected; and on the west is a fine gravel walk overlooking Lincoln's Inn Fields."

The next object of curiosity to our little party was the

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS.

This is an elegant structure of the Ionic order, with a beautiful portico, surmounted by the arms

of the college, supported by two sons of Esculapius. The interior is grand and spacious; and the museum, which comprises the collection of the celebrated John Hunter, is an extensive building of an oblong form, with galleries. Besides preparations of every species immediately connected with surgery, here is a fine arrangement of fossil and vegetable productions, and other articles of natural history. Here also is the *preserved wife* of the famous Van Butchell. She is deposited in a long mahogany box, and over the face is a square of glass, which may be removed at pleasure. The features are completely preserved, and afford a demonstrative proof of what art can accomplish.

Our little party now proceeded towards the Strand, where the first object which excited their attention was the church of

## ST. CLEMENT DANES,

Which was built from a design of Sir Christopher Wren, in the year 1680. It is built of stone, with two rows of windows; and on the north and south sides of the front is a portico, with a dome supported by Ionic columns. The steeple, which is lofty and elegant, was erected in 1719. It is conjectured that this edifice received its name from the massacre of some Danes, who had sought a sanctuary

in the old church which formerly occupied its site; or from its being the spot where the remains of Harold Harefoot were interred.

On the same side of the street, and at no great distance, Mr. Beresford pointed out what is called the

## NEW CHURCH, OR ST. MARY-LE-STRAND.

"This," said he, "is one of the fifty churches built by Queen Anne. The architect was Gibbs, who has erected a superb, though not a very extensive edifice. It is massy without being clumsy, and will last for ages. Before the building of this church a maypole stood in its place, which was gaily decorated on May morning with flowers and streamers—tokens of rural festivity. When removed, it was given to Sir Isaac Newton, who fixed it to his telescope at Wanstead, which was the largest at that time in the world."

Resuming their walk they soon came within sight of

## WATERLOO BRIDGE.

"This beautiful structure, my dear children," said Mr. Beresford, "was originally called the Strand Bridge; but the natural desire of commemorating in a public manner the ever-memorable battle of Waterloo, occasioned its change of name.

It was opened on the 18th of June, 1817, with great dignity and splendour. A party of the Horse Guards, who had been present at the battle of Waterloo, and who bore on their bosoms the trophies of their valour, went on the bridge about ten o'clock in the morning. A party of Foot Guards, with their band, and a detachment of the Royal Horse Artillery, with twenty field pieces, also attended. Eighteen standards were elevated on the bridge. In the centre, and at each end, waved the royal standard of Great Britain; between these were placed the standards of Prussia and the Netherlands, and the Orange flag; thus representing the nations, the success of whose arms occasioned the appellation of Waterloo Bridge. The Thames was nearly covered with boats, and the buildings fronting the river, from the Temple Gardens to Scotland Yard, were completely filled with spectators. The Prince Regent embarked at Whitehall Stairs on board the royal barge, bearing the royal standard, which was accompanied by the Lord Mayor and other barges belonging to the City, the Admiralty, and the Navy. The discharge of artillery commenced on the Regent's embarking, and continued until he landed on the steps on the south east of the bridge, which he ascended. His Royal Highness was accompanied by the Dukes of York and Wellington,

followed by a number of military officers, officers of state, and persons of rank, attended by a guard of honour. After passing over the bridge he descended by the north-west stairs to the royal barge. The firing then re-commenced, and did not terminate till his Royal Highness had landed at the water-gate, Whitehall, and returned to Carlton House. I never remember witnessing any occasion of public festivity where a greater number of persons of every description were assembled together, and where but one feeling, arising from the consciousness of national glory, seemed more completely to animate the whole.

"In a direct line with this bridge," continued Mr. Beresford, "and about a quarter of a mile distant from it, is the

## COBOURG THEATRE;

So called from the first stone having been laid on the 14th of September, 1816, by Alderman Goodbehere, as proxy for his Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg, and her Royal Highness the ever-to-be-lamented Princess Charlotte of Wales. The building is of an oblong form, and is well adapted for dramatic representations, the stage being very extensive, and every part of the house so constructed as to command a good view

of it. There are two tiers of boxes; and the saloon, by which they are connected, contains some beautiful marine paintings, together with striking likenesses of the Prince and Princess of Saxe-Cobourg."

## SOMERSET HOUSE.

"On the site of this house," he continued, "stood formerly the palace of the Duke of Somerset, uncle to Edward the Sixth, Protector of England. It was a noble edifice of Grecian and Gothic architecture, with a beautiful garden descending to the Thames. Charles the Second added a back front, and watergate, from a design of Inigo Jones. Queen Elizabeth resided here occasionally, as well as Anne of Denmark, queen of James the First, who held her court here, and amused her ladies with splendid masquerades. It was settled on her late Majesty, Queen Charlotte; but she exchanged it for Buckingham House; and in 1774, it was rebuilt, from a design of Sir William Chambers, for the use of several public offices, together with dwelling houses for their principal superintendants. The apartments towards the Strand are occupied by the Royal Society, the Society of Antiquarians, and the Royal Academy of Painting; and in the rooms appropriated to the latter, are annually exhibited some of the finest productions

of our British painters and sculptors. The view from the back part, next the river, is exquisitely beautiful.

" The front of Somerset House, next the street, consists of a rustic basement of nine arches, supporting Corinthian columns, surmounted in the centre by an attic, and at each end by a balustrade. The key-stones of the arches are ornamented with colossal masks, designed to represent the principal rivers of England. On the three central windows of the first floor, are medallions of George the Third, Queen Charlotte, and his present Majesty. The attic is adorned with emblematical figures of Justice, Truth, Valour, and Moderation; and the whole is surmounted by the British arms, supported by Fame and the genius of England. In the quadrangular court opposite the entrance, is a fine statue of our late gracious King, standing upon a bronze cast of the Thames, which, under the figure of a river god, appears in the act of presenting the tribute of wealth and plenty from a cornucopia."

Mr. Beresford now crossed the street, in order to gratify his young visitors with a sight of the

## EXHIBITION AT EXETER CHANGE.

" The building," said he, " to which I am now conducting you, possesses neither beauty nor singularity, to claim your attention: but the lower

part contains a tasteful variety of articles in toys, hosiery, cutlery, &c.; and the proprietor of the upper apartments possesses the finest collection of wild beasts and curious birds in the Metropolis. When I was last here, with some juvenile friends, a fine lioness was exhibited in the act of suckling her young cubs; and a small lion was so perfectly harmless, that he slept with a dog, on a little straw, and was occasionally suffered to run about the exhibition room, when he was stroked and patted by the company, without the least danger.

"As you know I am sometimes fond of rhyming, I versified one of the bills which I took home in my pocket; and I think the lines were as follow:

Walk in, walk in, the lions see,
For here 's a good collection;
Come, children, boldly come with me,
I 'll give you my protection.

The little cubs will please you much,
And much excite your wonder:
Their sire, however, is not such,
He roars like distant thunder!

An elephant, ten feet in height,
The crowd is here surveying;
And there a lion, in your sight,
Is with a tigress playing.

The Bactrian camel you may view;
And, though here are no sphinxes,
We 'll leopards show, and panthers too,
With porcupines and lynxes.

The bison, quagga, lama, still
Are all unseen remaining;
With beavers, whose industrious skill
Requires distinct explaining.

The emews, cassowary, cranes,
With birds I cannot mention;
Will also well reward your pains,
And well deserve attention."

Just as Mr. Beresford concluded the last verse, they entered the exhibition-room on the first floor; and the curious specimens of natural history which the children found there and in the upper apartments, excited much surprise and admiration. Little Julia was, at first, greatly alarmed at the appearance of the wild beasts; but on being assured that they could not possibly injure her, she resumed her vivacity, and enjoyed the spectacle as much as her brothers and sisters.

After descending from the Menagerie, and purchasing several elegant little articles in what is properly called the 'Change, the young folks followed their conductor to

## THE ADELPHI.

A noble range of buildings, erected by the Messrs. Adams, on the site of Durham Yard, so called from the palace of the Bishop of Durham, which formerly stood on the same spot. The buildings are made level with the Strand by strong lofty arches, and beneath the houses are extensive vaults, which are converted into warehouses and stabling; and from the ancient entrance to Durham Yard is a wide passage for carts, beneath the houses, leading to a spacious wharf below the terrace. In a handsome edifice in the Adelphi are held the meetings of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce; and the great room is decorated with a most beautiful series of paintings, descriptive of the progress of man, from the savage state to the utmost perfection of civilization.

The next object pointed out by uncle Beresford was

## NORTHUMBERLAND HOUSE.

"This princely mansion," said he, "though situated in the midst of a populous city, possesses many of the charms of rural retirement; as it commands a fine view over a spacious garden and the river to the hills of Surrey. The central part is a

remnant of the original pile. On the top is a lion passant, the crest of the Percy family. The interior of this edifice, which was completely repaired in 1821, consists of magnificent apartments, fitted up in the highest style of luxury and splendour, and enriched with a fine collection of the best paintings.

"And now, my dear children," said Mr. Beresford, "we have arrived at

## CHARING CROSS:

So called from having formerly been a village named Charing, in which Edward the First placed a magnificent cross to the memory of his beloved Queen Eleanor. The religious fury of the Reformers destroyed this tribute of conjugal affection. In the next century, and on the same spot, was placed a fine equestrian statue of Charles the First, cast by Le Soeur; and in 1678 it was placed on a pedestal, the work of Grinlin Gibbons. On the death of the king, and the abrogation of royalty in England, the Parliament ordered it to be sold and broke to pieces; but the brazier who bought it, concealed it carefully under ground, and then exhibited in his shop a large quantity of handles for knives, forks, &c. which he pretended to have made out of the condemned

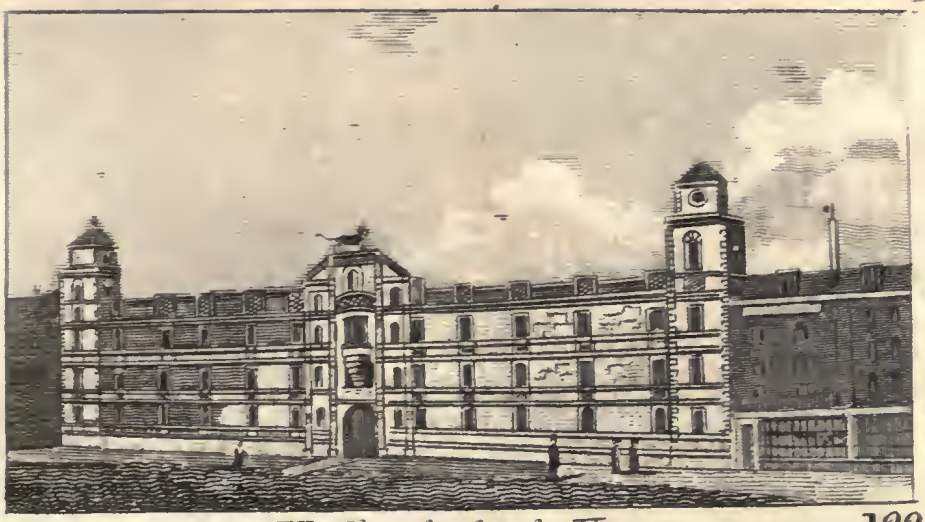
brass; and this scheme proved so successful, that immense numbers of the handles were purchased both by the friends and the enemies of the fallen monarch. At the restoration, however, it was again erected by the desire of Charles the Second. The figures are as large as life; Charles is uncovered, with his own hair, and looking towards Whitehall: he is on horseback, and in armour; and it is acknowledged to be the best equestrian statue in England. The pedestal is seventeen feet high, enclosed within a railing of strong iron work."

This fine prancing steed, I am credibly told,
Was doom'd to be broken to shivers;
Nay, history states it was actually sold
To a brazier, named Revit, or Rivers.

Of the brass, as reported, knife-handles were made,
And eagerly bought by the nation;
But whilst the sly brazier augmented his trade,
The horse was in good preservation.

Both he and the king long remain'd under ground;
But, in spite of severe prohibition,
Charles came to the throne, and the statue was found,
And plac'd in its present position.

"On the north side of Charing Cross," continued Mr. Beresford, "are the royal stables, commonly called



*Northumberland House.* *page* 122.

*The Admiralty.* *page* 166.

*The Horse Guards.* *page* 167.

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## THE KING'S MEWS,

In consequence of the building which formerly occupied this spot having been used for keeping the king's falcons, at least from the time of Richard the Second. The king's horses appear to have been kept here in the reign of Henry the Eighth; but the present edifice was not erected till the year 1732."

"Are any of these stables," enquired Elizabeth, "allotted to those beautiful cream-coloured horses, which I understand are only used by his Majesty on days of public procession?"

"They are, my love," rejoined Mr. Beresford; "and here is kept the state-coach of our gracious Sovereign, which I must endeavour to describe, as you may not have an opportunity of seeing it, previous to your return into the country.

"The carriage consists of four tritons, who support the body of the coach, by cables fastened to their fins; and those which support the coach-box on their shoulders are represented in the act of sounding shells, to announce the approach of the monarch of the seas: the driver's foot-board forms a large shell, resting on bundles of reeds and other marine plants; the wheels are like those of the ancient triumphal chariots, and the pole

is contrived to resemble a bundle of lances: the body of the coach is formed of eight beautiful palm trees, which branch out at the top, and support the roof; these are enriched with trophies of victory, and the spaces between them are filled, in the upper part, with plate-glass, partly cased with iron, whilst the pannels below are adorned with the choicest emblematic paintings. The inside of the coach is lined with crimson velvet, richly embroidered with gold; and on the centre of the roof stand three boys, representing the genii of England, Scotland, and Ireland, who support the Imperial crown, and hold in their hands the sceptre, the sword of state, &c. The whole of the wood work is superbly gilt, and all the paintings are beautifully varnished; the harness for the horses is also very magnificent, and the expense of the whole is said to have exceeded ten thousand pounds."

The party now turned up St. Martin's Lane, where their admiration was excited by the magnificent appearance of the church of

## ST. MARTIN, IN THE FIELDS.

"It is reported," said Mr. Beresford, "that this spot was occupied by a church before the year 1222; but the elegant stone edifice which now

claims our attention, was erected between 1721 and 1726. The portico of the west front consists of eight Corinthian columns, supporting a pediment which is decorated with the royal arms; the steeple possesses the merit of originality, for, though built by Sir Christopher Wren, it does not resemble any other steeple erected by him. The interior decorations of the church are extremely fine, and the whole is worthy of minute inspection."

After taking an attentive survey of this noble church our party proceeded, through Chandos Street, to

## COVENT GARDEN:

So called from its having, in ancient times, been a garden, or pleasure-ground, belonging to the convent of St. Peter in Westminster; but it is now occupied as one of the greatest markets in Europe, for fruit, flowers, and vegetables. The abundance and tasteful display of these articles afforded much pleasure to the children; and they were particularly struck by the exhibition of various articles of luxury, which, in their native village, would not have appeared for at least a couple of months.

After they had sufficiently gratified their cu-

riosity with the contemplation of the market, Mr. Beresford pointed out the parish church of

## ST. PAUL, COVENT GARDEN;

Which is universally admired for its majestic simplicity, and is considered as the finest specimen of the abilities of Inigo Jones: for though the interior was unfortunately destroyed by fire, in 1795, it was rebuilt on the original plan of that eminent architect. The front exhibits a plain but noble portico of the Tuscan order, and the roof, though only of wood, is esteemed a masterpiece of its kind, being supported by the walls alone. The altar-piece is adorned with eight fluted Corinthian columns, and the whole of the interior possesses a pleasing air of chaste simplicity.

"We will now proceed," said Mr. Beresford, "to Bow Street, in order to obtain a view of

## COVENT GARDEN THEATRE;

Which was built by Mr. Smirke, an architect, who took for his model the best specimen of the Doric order from the ruins of Athens. The front is embellished with basso-relievos, represent-

*Covent Garden Theatre.* page 128.

*St. Pauls Covent Garden.* page 128.

*Drury Lane Theatre.* page 129.

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ing the ancient and modern drama, uniting at once grandeur and classical taste. The interior is appropriately ornamented with those national emblems the rose, the thistle, and the shamrock. The stage is very spacious, and there are three tiers of boxes, two galleries, and an extensive pit; and the whole of the house is brilliantly illuminated with gas. This edifice, which is calculated to contain upwards of 3000 persons, was first opened in 1809: the old theatre having been destroyed by fire in the preceding year."

Resuming their walk, Mr. Beresford and his companions arrived in a few minutes at

## DRURY LANE THEATRE.

A heavy but substantial edifice, erected in 1811, by Benjamin Wyatt, esq.; a much larger theatre having fallen a prey to the flames in 1809. The front is of the Doric order, and the portico, surmounted by a statue of Shakspeare, was added so recently as 1820. The grand entrance leads through a spacious hall to an elegant rotunda, whence staircases ascend to the boxes. The interior of the house, as seen from the stage, exhibits three-fourths of a circle, and has a splendid appearance; being principally lighted by an

elegant chandelier with gas burners, which hangs over the centre of the pit. It is supposed capable of containing about 2,800 persons.

Crossing Holborn, and proceeding towards Guildford Street, Mr. Beresford pointed out, as the last object of notice in this day's excursion, the entrance to

## GRAY'S INN,

Which he observed was a place of great antiquity, demised to students of the law by the noble family of the Grays de Wilton. This Inn consists of several well-built courts; and is not only inhabited by barristers and professional students, but also by many gentlemen of independent fortune, who have selected it as an agreeable retirement. The hall is adorned with an oak screen very curiously carved; and contains good portraits of Charles the First and Second, James the Second, and Lord Raymond. The principal ornament of this Inn, however, is a spacious garden, which, during the summer months, is open to the public every day, and forms a genteel promenade.

The next morning, during breakfast, Mr. Beresford informed his nephews and nieces that he should soon be ready to attend them, to make a third inspection of the beauties of the Metropolis;

*Foundling Hospital.* page 131.

*British Museum.* page 136.

*Cavendish Square.* page 210.

*Published Nov. 20, 1808, by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

but he observed, as some of the places which he now designed to visit were at a considerable distance from each other, he should convey them in his carriage, and by no means permit them to walk. Accordingly, in about half an hour, the coach drew up to the door, and in a few minutes conveyed them to the

## FOUNDLING HOSPITAL.

This edifice is composed of two brick wings, built in a regular manner, and ornamented by piazzas. The chapel is in the centre, and joined by arches to the wings. The interior of the house and chapel are decorated with many excellent paintings by Hogarth, some of which are considered the best in his serious style. "This glorious institution," said Mr. Beresford, "was erected for the support of infants whom their parents had deserted, and who are here clothed, fed, and educated, until they are of a proper age to earn their own living. No sight in the world can be more truly gratifying to a benevolent heart, than that of beholding these innocents all assembled together in the gallery of the chapel. The preachers are chosen from among the most eloquent, and never fail to attract a crowd of delighted hearers."

The coachman was now ordered to proceed down Gray's Inn Lane Road, and across what is termed, Mount Pleasant, to the

## HOUSE OF CORRECTION, COLD-BATH FIELDS.

"This prison, my dear children," said Mr. Beresford, "cost the county of Middlesex between 70 and 80,000 pounds, and its yearly expenses are about 7000. The wall is very high, and it has one of the best chapels belonging to any prison in London. It contains between 280 and 290 sleeping cells, of which 12 are double, and the rest all single: the female prisoners sleep two in a cell; and when the number of males exceeds the regular accommodation, barracks of wood are put up for them, where from 15 to 30 sleep together in the same room. The cells are all arched, airy, and well-constructed; but those that open into the courts are cold and damp. They have all shutters, however, which are closed at night. This edifice was at first designed only as a kind of Bridewell; but, having suitable accommodations for different descriptions of prisoners, it is now used for criminals generally."

As the carriage proceeded through Coppice Row and towards Clerkenwell Green, Mr. Beresford in-

formed his young friends that this part of the town received its name from a famous spring anciently called the Clerks' Well, from the circumstance of the parish-clerks of London assembling there annually, to perform sacred dramas. In the reign of Richard the Second, they displayed their talents in this way for three days; the king, queen, and many of the nobility being present at the performance: and in the succeeding reign another play was acted in the same place, and continued during eight days. This drama commenced with the Creation of the World, and comprised a considerable part of Scripture History; and though it does not appear to have been honoured by the presence of the sovereign, it was numerously attended by the nobility and gentry of the realm.

Nothing further occurred to excite the attention of our little party till they arrived at the

## CHARTER HOUSE.

"This venerable building," said Mr. Beresford, "which is situated in the Square of the same name, was originally a priory for Carthusian monks, founded by Sir Walter de Manni, a celebrated commander in the French wars, under Edward the Third; and continued prosperous until the dissolution of the monasteries in the time of Henry the

Eighth, when it shared the common fate. It was purchased by a Mr. Thomas Sutton for 13,000*l.* who converted it to the noble purpose to which it is still applied. He fitted up a house, and endowed it with estates to the value of 4400*l.* per annum, for the maintenance of a master, a preacher, a schoolmaster, and his deputy, who instruct forty boys that are boarded in the house, besides eighty decayed gentlemen. The chapel, the library, and old court-room, will be found worthy of your inspection; the decorations of the latter, though much mutilated, are highly magnificent; they are of the time of Elizabeth."

"Pray, uncle," said Miss Hastings, "are not those figures over the fire-place, in the pannels of gold, Faith, Hope, and Charity?"

"Yes, my dear, the whole of the chimney-piece is beautifully adorned: the basement is formed by four Tuscan pillars; in the intercolumniations are paintings of Mars and Minerva, on gilded shields. The next division is composed of four Ionic pillars; the pedestals contain paintings of the Annunciation and the Last Supper, the figures are gold upon a black ground, and are finely executed. The great centre pannel is of gold, with an oval, which contains the arms of James the First, and a carved cherub beneath. Where shall we find a more interesting chamber than this? Almost every illus-

trious character which England has produced, from the time of Henry the Eighth to that of Charles the First, has frequented this room, either as an inhabitant, a visitor, an attendant on Queen Elizabeth, or James the First, or as a governor of Mr. Sutton's charity."

On resuming their places in the carriage, the children were informed that they were now going to

## BLOOMSBURY SQUARE.

Which, Mr. Beresford, observed was once called Southampton Square. The house which occupies the north side was built after the design of Inigo Jones, and called Southampton, afterwards Bedford House, the town residence of the amiable Lady Russell. One of the north wings was a gallery, in which were copies of Raphael's Cartoons by Sir James Thornhill. To forward some improvements the Duke of Bedford sold this house, and an elegant street is now built on the site. In June 1816, there was erected in this square a fine statue, by Westmacott, of the late Right Honourable Charles James Fox. It is admirably executed, and the likeness is very striking. This statue, and that of the late Duke of Bedford, by the same artist, in Russell Square, form two beautiful ornaments of this Metropolis.

## ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, BLOOMSBURY,

Is one of the fifty new churches erected by act of parliament, after the fire of London, and is distinguished from all the rest by standing north and south, and by the statue of King George the First being placed on the summit of its pyramidal steeple. The portico, consisting of eight Corinthian columns, has a magnificent appearance; but the interior of the edifice has no claim to elegance.

A ride of a few minutes brought Mr. Beresford and his juvenile friends to Great Russell Street, where they alighted at the

## BRITISH MUSEUM.

"Montague House, which contains this invaluable treasure," said Mr. Beresford, "was built by the first Duke of Montague, after a French model. The ceilings and staircase were painted by La Fosse and Rousseau, and it certainly may be ranked as one of the noblest and most extensive buildings in London; though, like Burlington House, it is hidden by a high brick wall. At each corner of the building is a turret, and over the great arch of the entrance there is a handsome cupola. On entering the gate of the Museum a spacious square

presents itself, with an Ionic colonnade on the south side, and the main building on the north."

Having entered their names in a book kept for that purpose, our little party proceeded to the grand staircase, on which are placed a musk ox and white bear, brought from the Polar regions, a male and female camelopardalis, and a bust of Sir Joseph Banks. They then entered an apartment containing a rich collection of mineral and volcanic productions; miscellaneous articles from the west-coast of North America and the South Sea islands, consisting of fishing and warlike implements, winter and summer dresses, a canoe composed of several pieces of wood sewed together, the mourning dress of an Otaheitan lady, and a variety of hideous idols, decorated with red and yellow feathers.

Several other apartments are filled with a most valuable collection of ancient manuscripts, and in one of them, in a glazed frame, is the original Magna Charta granted by King John to his assembled barons at Runnymede. To the young people, however, these objects were less attractive than the grand saloon, painted with a representation of the birth of Minerva, and most elegantly decorated with landscapes and garlands of flowers. Here is a collection of minerals, occupying upwards of 640 drawers, exclusive of the specimens exhibited in the glazed compartments above: and the *meteoric*

*stones*, (that is, stones mixed with native iron, which have fallen from the air,) which are here exhibited, are exceedingly curious.

The remaining rooms on this floor contains a beautiful collection of birds, beasts, shells, and minerals, with some truly interesting petrifactions, and other fossil remains: comprising a fossil human skeleton imbedded in limestone, from the island of Guadaloupe; a fine specimen of the skull and horns of the colossal Irish elk, and various bones of the fossil Siberian elephant, which is supposed to be the real mammoth.

The department of antiquities is surprisingly extensive; containing, in fifteen apartments, nearly a thousand pieces of rich and valuable sculpture. These are divided into the Greek and Roman sculptures, Roman antiquities, Roman sepulchral antiquities, and Egyptian antiquities. The collection of coins and medals, is deposited in a room which can only be seen by special permission.

At the head of the stairs, in what is called the anti-room, is the beautiful vase which, for more than two centuries, was the principal ornament of the Barbarini palace, and was found, about the middle of the 16th century, in the road leading from Rome to Frescati, enclosed in a marble sarcophagus within a sepulchral chamber. The material of which it is formed is glass, and the figures

in relief, by which it is ornamented, are of a beautiful opaque white. About thirty years ago, this vase was purchased of Sir W. Hamilton by the Duchess of Portland; and since that time it has been generally called the Portland vase.

The Elgin Marbles, so called from the circumstance of their having been obtained by Lord Elgin, during his mission to the Porte, and sold by him to government for £35,000, are considered by ancient artists to be in the very first class of ancient art; and they are supposed to have been executed from designs by Phidias, for the original building of the Pantheon.

There is another apartment containing a fine and valuable collection of prints and drawings; but strangers are not admitted to view it without special permission.

On quitting the Museum, Mr. Beresford pointed out to his young companions some new buildings in progress for the extension of that national institution; and then ordered his coachman to drive to the

## BAZAAR, IN SOHO SQUARE.

On entering the square, Mr. Beresford observed, that the statue in the centre of the shrubbery was that of Charles the Second, with emblematical figures of the rivers Thames, Trent, Severn, and

Humber, at his feet; and that the square had once been named after the Duke of Monmouth, the unfortunate son of that monarch; but his friends changed it to Soho, being the word of the day at the battle of Sedgemoor, in which all his hopes were overthrown.

The Bazaar, at the north-west corner of this square, is an establishment for the sale of light and elegant goods, opened in 1815. The premises are very commodious and spacious, comprising a space of nearly 300 feet by 130, from the square to Dean Street on one side, and to Oxford Street on the other. The different rooms into which these premises are divided, are conveniently fitted up with mahogany counters, divided into stands, which are occupied by upwards of two hundred females. The walls are hung with red cloth, and the whole appearance of the place is tasteful and elegant. The novelty of such a mart at first sight excited much attention, and since that time the Bazaar has become quite a fashionable lounge.

After making several purchases, as presents for their beloved father, and their uncle's housekeeper, Mrs. Tabitha Plainway, the children resumed their seats in the carriage, and proceeded to

## LEICESTER SQUARE,

In the centre of which is a gilded statue of King George the First on horseback. This spot is celebrated as having been the residence of many illustrious and public characters. In Leicester House (the site of which is now occupied by what is called Leicester Place), Elizabeth, daughter of James the First, and titular Queen of Bohemia, terminated her unfortunate life in 1661. It was afterwards occupied by Prince Eugene; and both George the Second and his son Frederick lived here several years. The justly celebrated artist Hogarth, the eminent surgeon Mr. John Hunter, and that fine painter Sir Joshua Reynolds were likewise inhabitants of this square.

"But now," said Mr. Beresford, "we must alight, and take a view of the beautiful, and I may say unparalleled needlework of Miss Linwood, which occupies one wing of the building formerly called Saville House."

The countenances of the young ladies brightened with joy at the idea of beholding this far-famed exhibition; but the boys could not help smiling at the idea of being introduced to a scene which they *supposed* to possess no charms for any but females. Their uncle perceived in a moment what was passing in their minds, but seemed to take no notice of it, merely remarking, that the young gentlemen must

attend to their sisters, whilst he procured a descriptive catalogue.

In a few moments they were introduced to a long and well proportioned gallery, hung from the ceiling to the ground with scarlet cloth, and rich imitations of gold bullion tassels; one side of the room being covered with the pictures, and the other being occupied by a range of windows fitted up with sofas to match the hangings, a superb fireplace, and a door leading into another apartment; whilst the extremity of the room exhibited a magnificent throne, surmounted by a splendid canopy of satin and silver.

Henry was evidently surprised at a scene so different from that which he had anticipated; and William, as he stood gazing with rapture on the objects before him, told his uncle he never could believe there was any *needlework* in the room, but that he felt convinced he had been introduced to a gallery of pictures, painted by the first masters.

"The whole of these beautiful performances," said Mr. Beresford, "are really the productions of the needle; even the faces of these pictures before you, which are as large as life, and which possess all the advantages of the drawing, colouring, and shading of the English and foreign artists from whose original paintings they have been taken."

The catalogue was now opened, and our de-

lighted little party began to examine the numerous and truly interesting subjects before them with the most intense interest; and then proceeded to another apartment, called the Gothic room, in which, under a peculiarly softened light, they looked into the open casement of a cottage, and saw the cottager's children warming themselves at the fire—when, advancing farther, they beheld in the cell of her prison the lovely and beautiful Lady Jane Grey, refusing to listen to the exhortations of a catholic priest prior to her execution;—when, beyond this, they beheld a woman and child taking shelter from the pitiless storm—and when finally they looked into the rough and rugged dens of the tiger, with the broken shore of the sea in the distance, they felt as if transported into the regions of romance, and confessed that nothing they had yet seen in the Metropolis had afforded them so much pleasure.

"There is one more apartment," said Mr. Beresford, "which demands our attention, and though it contains but *one* picture, we must not pass it without notice."

They accordingly entered the room, which they found hung with scarlet broad cloth, to correspond with the gallery, and at the upper end, in a glazed and exquisitely beautiful frame, they saw a most charming and affecting representation of our blessed

Redeemer, in the solemn act of blessing the bread and the cup at the institution of his sacramental supper.

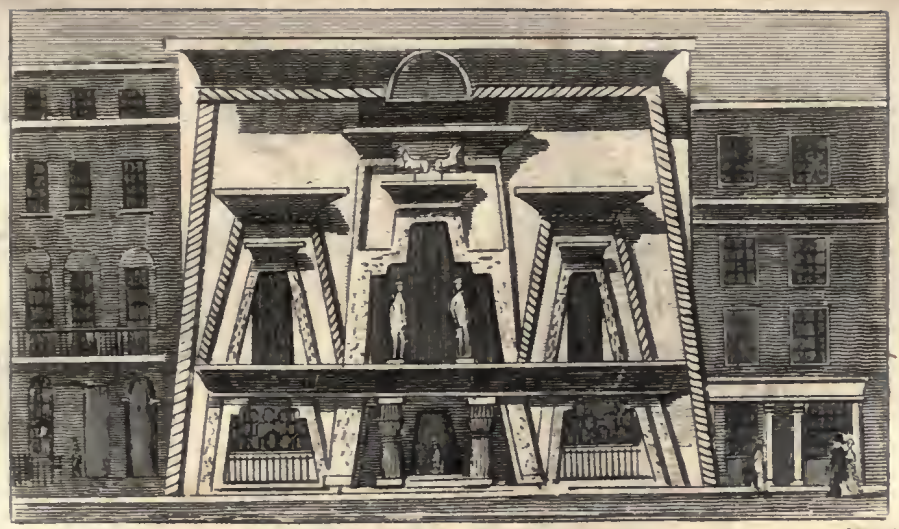
"This, sir," exclaimed Henry, "is indeed the finest piece in the whole collection. How I wish my dear father could see it!"

"Whenever he comes to town," said Mr. Beresford, "he may avail himself of the opportunity; but now, my dear children, we must bid adieu to this interesting spot, as time is rapidly advancing, and we have several other places to visit before we return home."

This intimation was immediately attended to, and Mr. Beresford desired that the carriage might proceed slowly through Piccadilly, in order that he might have an opportunity of pointing out some places where he did not intend to alight.

## THE EGYPTIAN HALL

Excited the attention of our young travellers by the singularity of its appearance; and Mr. Beresford remarked that it derived its name from the style of its architecture, being built with inclined pilasters, and ornamented with a profusion of hieroglyphics. It was erected in 1812, by a person named Bullock, and was originally occupied by the numerous curiosities which formed his museum,



*Bullock's Museum.* page 144.

*St. James's Palace ..* page 146.

*Carlton House.* page 151.

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and in which the travelling carriage of the Ex-emperor Napoleon held a distinguished place. At present it is divided into several compartments, which are used as auction and exhibition rooms.

## ALBANY.

"This building, my dears," said Mr. Beresford, "is Albany, originally inhabited by Lord Melbourne, and afterwards by the Duke of York, in compliment to whom it was named after his second title. It is now converted into a range of elegant chambers for the casual residence of the nobility and gentry. At the corner of Berkeley Street is Devonshire House. The apartments are grand, and built in an excellent style."

## THE RUSSIAN, IMPERIAL, AND PULTENEY HOTEL

Is a capital house, and has an elegant front, with composite pilasters, flowers, and other ornaments. It was the residence of the Emperor of Russia during his visit to the Metropolis, and is now the abode of a noble marquis.

## APSLEY HOUSE,

Built by the Lord Chancellor Bathurst, was the residence of Marquis Wellesley, but it has lately

become the abode of his brother the Duke of Wellington.

Mr. Beresford told them that he would defer shewing them the Parks until the morrow, which was Sunday, when he would take them also to see Kensington Palace and Gardens; but now he should return by St. James's-street.

## ST. JAMES'S SQUARE.

This is one of the most elegant squares in London: in the centre is a circular sheet of water, from the middle of which rises a fine equestrian statue of William the Third. Norfolk House is a noble building, within whose walls his late Majesty, George the Third was born.

## ST. JAMES'S PALACE.

"This palace of our British monarchs," said Mr. Beresford, "stands on the site of the hospital of St. James; and some remains of that building are to be seen in the north gateway. It was rebuilt in the reign of Henry the Third. The son of James the First, who was Henry Prince of Wales, resided here till his death, in 1612. To this palace the unfortunate Charles the First was conveyed from Windsor by the regicides, to spend

the eleven last days of his life. James, the son of James the Second, afterwards called the Pretender, was born in this palace, in the room now styled the Old Bed Chamber. It is the anti-chamber to the levee-room.

"During the reign of William the Third, it was fitted up for the residence of the Princess, afterwards Queen Anne, and her consort George of Denmark. From that time it became the town residence of the British monarchs. In 1809, part of this palace was destroyed by fire, which reduced to ashes the whole south-east corner; and since that time it has been seldom visited by the Royal Family, though the edifice underwent a complete repair in 1821.

"The state apartments, which look toward the Park, are commodious and handsome, and are entered by a staircase which opens into the principal court. At the top of the staircase are two guard-rooms, and immediately beyond one of these is the *presence chamber,* leading to the five principal rooms which open successively into each other. In the centre room, called the privy chamber, is a canopy, under which our late revered sovereign used to receive the Society of Friends, or Quakers. On the right is a drawing-room, where the addresses of corporate bodies were usually received, under a superb canopy of crimson velvet, bordered

with gold lace, and decorated with embroidered crowns, set with rich pearls. On the left of the presence and privy chambers are two levee rooms, one serving as an antichamber to the other; and both are covered with tapestry of exquisite workmanship, said to have been made for Charles the Second, but never used till the reign of his late majesty.

"It was at the gate of this palace," said Mr. Beresford, "that an attempt was made on the life of King George the Third, by Margaret Nicholson, on the 2nd of August 1786 The particulars of that memorable circumstance were as follow:—The woman by whom this desperate attempt was made, had been observed for some time waiting the sovereign's arrival, and previous to the appearance of his travelling-carriage, took her station between two respectable females who were unknown to her, and entered into a slight conversation with them. On the carriage approaching she begged that they would not impede her in an attempt to present a memorial to his majesty. As the door of the carriage was opened, and the king was in the act of alighting she stepped forward and held out a paper, which his majesty received in the most condescending manner. At the same instant a knife, which was concealed under the paper, was directed against the breast of

the unsuspecting monarch, but happily avoided. The woman then aimed a second stroke, but the attendant yeoman rushed forward and caught her arm, whilst one of the king's footmen seized the knife. The sovereign with amazing temper and fortitude exclaimed, at the same instant, 'I have received no injury; don't hurt the poor woman, she appears to be insane.' This opinion was afterwards strengthened by an examination of the culprit before the council; and she was finally sent, as a lunatic, to Bethlem Hospital, where she remained during the residue of her life.

"An anecdote has been related, in connexion with this subject, which reflected much honour on the humanity and presence of mind of the Spanish *chargé d'affairs,* who no sooner heard of the frustrated attempt than he set out post for Windsor, and immediately sought an audience of her majesty, not, as a mere gossip would have done, in order to assure her that her royal consort had escaped the peril with which he had been menaced; but with the judicious design of keeping her majesty engaged in conversation, and thus preventing her from receiving any intelligence on the subject previous to the king's arrival.

"As soon as the council was over, the king returned to Windsor; and, on entering her ma-

jesty's dressing-room, where she was sitting with the two eldest princesses, he exclaimed, in an animated tone, 'Here I am, safe and well!' From this expression it was naturally conjectured that some accident had happened; and when his majesty related the circumstance, the queen stood silent and motionless for some seconds, till the princesses burst into tears, and her feelings found vent in a similar effort."

## MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, PALL MALL.

"This stately brick edifice," said Mr. Beresford, "was built in the reign of Queen Anne, at the expense of 40,000*l.* and was given to the Duke of Marlborough as a tribute of national gratitude for his eminent services. The front is very extensive, the wings on each side are decorated at the corners with stone rustic work. The interior corresponds with the exterior, and is fitted up with extreme magnificence. It is now the town residence of his Royal Highness the Prince of Saxe Cobourg."

## CARLTON PALACE.

"This edifice," said Mr. Beresford, "is built on the site of the house formerly occupied by the grandmother of his present Majesty, the Princess Dowager of Wales. The front consists of a centre, with a portico, two wings, an entablature, and a balustrade; but it is so low that it only admits of one range of apartments, with a diminutive attic. The screen which separates it from Pall Mall is a handsome colonnade of the Ionic order, in the centre of which is a beautiful military trophy, between the royal supporters; the basement, however, is so high that it gives the palace a dark and heavy appearance.

"On ascending a flight of steps, and passing through a magnificent hall, the visitor enters the *vestibule*, an octagonal apartment, richly ornamented, in which are two archways hung with velvet drapery,—one leading to the grand staircase, and the other to the principal suite of apartments. The former is truly sumptuous, and the light is so contrived, that the effect appears perfectly magical. The ceiling is particularly elegant, glittering with ornaments of gold and bronze heads, and the skylight is embellished with the most charming devices in painted glass.

"The principal apartments are all splendidly furnished in the modern style, and the grand saloon seems to realize the most glowing descriptions contained in the Arabian Nights; particularly when lighted up by a chandelier about eight feet in height, exclusive of the chains, and contrived by its form and the disposition of its brilliant ornaments to resemble a fountain.

"The *throne-room* is completely surrounded by Corinthian pilasters, and contains, as its name implies, a chair of state, beneath a superb canopy of crimson velvet. The *Gothic dining-room* is divided into five compartments, and decorated with the arms of all the British sovereigns, from Edward, surnamed the Confessor, to Queen Anne. The *golden drawing-room* is a spacious and beautiful apartment, completely surrounded with looking-glasses, which reach from the ground to the ceiling, and render its appearance still more extensive. The *library* contains an invaluable collection of books and prints; and the *conservatory*, which communicates at one end with the gardens, affords a display of the florid Gothic style, inferior only to the chapel of Henry the Seventh in Westminster Abbey. The *plate-room* is said to contain the finest collection of gold and silver articles in Europe; and the *armory* comprises specimens of whatever is rare or curious in ancient or modern

*Waterloo Place.* page 153.

*The Opera House.* page 153.

*Kensington Palace.* page 157.

*Published Nov.r 20. 1818. by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

armour. Here, among other objects of curiosity, are the horse armour and trappings which belonged to that oriental despot, Tippoo Saib, and the golden throne of the late King of Candy, studded with a variety of precious stones.

"At the back of the palace, are stables fitted up in the most costly style, and exquisitely beautiful gardens, which are as retired as if situated in a remote part of the country."

## WATERLOO PLACE.

"These houses, from their size and exterior," said Mr. Beresford, "bid fair to become one of the greatest ornaments to this part of the Metropolis. To finish the grand outline from Carlton House, a spacious site has been selected for the New College of Physicians, which is to resemble that beautiful edifice, Surgeons' Hall."

## OPERA HOUSE, HAYMARKET.

"Before I make any remarks on the present building," said Mr. Beresford, "I must tell you, my dears, that in 1789, the King's Theatre was burnt down, and that in April 1790, the first stone of the Opera House was laid by the Earl of Buckingham. The exterior, however, was not erected

in its present style till 1818. It is now a handsome edifice, cased with stucco, and adorned with a beautiful colonnade, supported by Doric pillars of cast iron. The interior is very spacious and magnificent; and the grand concert-room, which is 95 feet long, 46 broad, and 35 high, is fitted up in the most tasteful and elegant manner. The performances consist of Italian operas and ballets, and the principal performers are the most celebrated from the theatres of France and Italy."

## HAYMARKET THEATRE.

"The new building on the other side of the Haymarket," continued Mr. Beresford, "stands almost on the site of the original edifice, which was erected in 1792. The front, as you perceive, is ornamented with a lofty portico, supported by six Corinthian columns, over which are nine circular windows. The interior is well adapted in all its parts for the purpose of seeing and hearing, and the embellishments are elegant and appropriate. This theatre is licensed to exhibit regular dramas during the summer, when the larger theatres are closed."

Our little party now returned, in high spirits, to Guildford Street, and were congratulating each other on the pleasures of the day, when they were

suddenly called to the drawing-room windows, by the melodious strains of some

## ITINERANT MUSICIANS.

The children were alive to the cheering sounds in a moment, and little Julia absolutely capered about with joy, whilst her uncle exclaimed,

O! here are the musical gentlemen come,
With hautboys and fiddles, French horns and a drum,
To give you a sweet serenade.
I see my dear children all look very glad,
And Julia appears half inclin'd to run mad,—
So we 'll send them some pence by the maid.

Here, Betty, take this to the men in the street,
Who have just come in time our arrival to greet,
And tell them with spirit to play:
Let them give us such pieces as most are admir'd,
And when my companions appear to be tir'd
The fiddlers may all go away.

'Twas thus that the minstrels in ages of old,
Regardless of heat and inur'd to the cold,
Fill'd the air with harmonious strains:
Nay, thus royal Alfred is said to have gone,
With his harp in his hand, tho' unarm'd and alone,
Through the camp of his rivals the Danes.

Disguis'd as a shepherd, and skilful to please,
He found the invaders supine and at ease,
And profited well by the view:
Returning, his dress and his manners he chang'd,—
His brave English warriors around him he rang'd,
And the forces of Guthrum o'erthrew.

When Oliver Cromwell a ruler became,
And acted the king, tho' without a king's name,
The minstrels were sadly distress'd;
For sternly the mighty Protector ordain'd
That itin'rant musicians should all be restrain'd,
And that fiddles in silence should rest.

'Twas thus the fierce bull a blind fiddler once toss'd
O'er a hedge, as the path of a meadow he cross'd,
And his fiddle was broke on the ground:
The hapless musician exclaim'd, with a groan,
"A taste for fine music, thou brute, thou hast none,
"Thy head was ne'er form'd for its sound!"

Still "music has charms," as the poet has said,
Tho' all the old minstrels and Alfred are dead,
And much it delights me I own:
But what 's more important to you and to me,
The dinner is plac'd on the table, I see,—
So come, my young friends, and sit down.

The next day Mr. Beresford ordered an early dinner, that he might have a long afternoon, to shew his nephews and their sisters the beauty

of the Parks and Kensington Gardens. He had taken them in the morning to church, and he now wished them to enjoy the novelty of a Sunday in London. As soon, therefore, as the cloth was withdrawn, the carriage was announced, and the coachman was desired to drive to

## KENSINGTON PALACE.

Which, Mr. Beresford observed, had occasionally been the residence of the late sovereigns of England. It is a large irregular brick edifice, built at different times, chiefly by William the Third. The entrance is by a stone gallery, leading to the great staircase, which is of black marble, and adorned with paintings by Kent; and in the state apartments, consisting of a suite of twelve rooms, are a considerable number of portraits and historical paintings. Queen Caroline, consort of George the Second, took great pleasure in regaining as many as possible of the dispersed collection of the ill-fated Charles the First. The gardens of the palace were highly improved by the same queen, and are used as a fashionable promenade during the summer months.

## HYDE PARK

Is a royal demesne. The scenery is charming, and its beauty is considerably increased by the plantations lately made. This is also a fashionable resort on Sundays, when it displays a crowd of splendid equipages, as well as elegantly dressed pedestrians. A noble sheet of water, called the Serpentine River, was formed by Queen Caroline, which in severe weather becomes the magnet of attraction to all who are adepts in the art of skaiting.

Here, here, my young friends, is the river for skaiting,
When ice and cold weather invite you:
But if on the bank you should chance to stand waiting,
Some accidents perhaps may affright you.

'Tis pleasant enough to observe the vagaries
Of those who know what they are doing;
Who figures describe, with the lightness of fairies,
The path of their comrades pursuing.

But sometimes it happens the ice proves too brittle
For skaiters their sports to begin;
And they who presume to pass on but a little,
Are sure to sink up to the chin.

*Skating on the Serpentine River.* *page* 15.

*Guy Fawkes in Effigy.* *page* 185.

*Published Oct^r 1 1824. by J. Harris, corner of S^t Pauls.*

The ropes are thrown out in this moment of danger,
Cries for help are not utter'd in vain;
But sad is the fate of the terrified stranger,
Who looks like a hen in the rain.

On other occasions no danger of sinking
Exists, for the ice is too strong;
But whilst some grave skaiter profoundly is thinking,
He finds himself driven along.

Away flies his hat, and his wig follows after,
His heels mount aloft in the air:
Whilst his neighbours demand, amid shouts of loud laughter,
"Why, man, do you lie sprawling there?"

A second, a third, and a fourth are now falling,
Push'd on by some mischievous elf;
"Oh save me! Oh raise me!" each loudly is bawling,
"You see that I can't help myself."

The persons upset with the piercing cold quiver,
And bleak to be sure is the day;
Yet such are the charms of the Serpentine River,
That nothing can drive them away.

## ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL, HYDE PARK CORNER.

As this Hospital was erected for the benevolent purpose of receiving the lame and the sick poor, Mr. Beresford pointed it out to his young companions. It is a noble though plain building, erected on the spot formerly occupied by the house of James Lane, Viscount Lanesborough, who whimsically placed on its front these lines,

"It is my delight to be
Both in town and country."

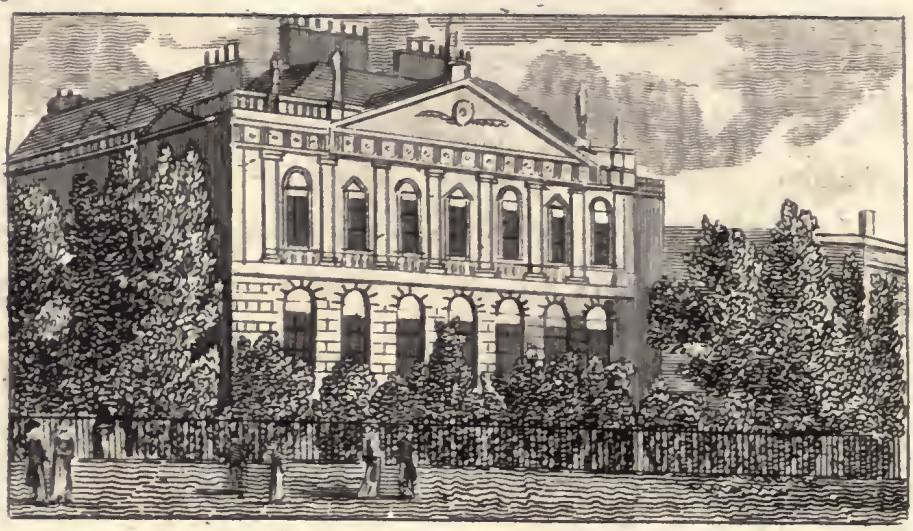
They now quitted the carriage and entered the Green Park; which lies to the south of Piccadilly.

## THE RANGER'S HOUSE, GREEN PARK.

This elegant mansion, with its gardens, form a picturesque object, and add greatly to the beauty of the Park,—as does a small, but beautiful sheet of water, called The Basin.

## CLEVELAND HOUSE.

This is a stone building, plain, but chastely elegant. It belongs to the Marquis of Stafford, who, with the most praiseworthy, but rare libe-



*Lord Spenser's House.* *page* 161.

*Buckingham House.* *page* 161.

*Chinese Bridge.* *page* 163.

*Published Nov.r 20. 1818. by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

rality, has appropriated one day in the week, from May to July, for the public to inspect his superb collection of pictures. They are esteemed the finest in England.

## SPENCER HOUSE.

This is a beautiful building in the Grecian style of architecture. The statues in front are commandingly graceful; and the interior equals the outside. The chief ornament of Spencer House is the library, thirty feet by twenty-five, and containing one of the finest collections of books in the kingdom.

## BUCKINGHAM HOUSE.

"This edifice, my dear children," said Mr. Beresford, "was erected in 1703, by the learned and accomplished John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, who died about seventeen years afterwards. In 1761 it became the property of her late Majesty Queen Charlotte, and here all her children were born, excepting the eldest. Here, also, the Duke of York was married to the Princess Royal of Prussia, in 1791; the Duke of Gloucester to the Princess Mary, in 1816; the Prince of Hesse Hombourg to the Princess Elizabeth, in 1818; and the Duke of Cambridge to the Princess of Hesse, in the same

year. The front is of red brick, with white pilasters and entablatures, and many of the apartments are large and commodious. The walls of the grand staircase are painted with the story of Dido, and the ceiling represents Juno and Venus, and other objects of the Heathen mythology. The walls and ceiling of the saloon are entirely painted; the former having fluted pilasters of the Corinthian order, richly adorned with foliage, and the latter representing Apollo listening to the Muses. Most of the other apartments are ornamented with painted ceilings, and with some of the late Mr. West's finest productions. Before the house is a spacious lawn enclosed with iron railings, and behind it are extensive gardens and a canal."

## ST. JAMES'S PARK.

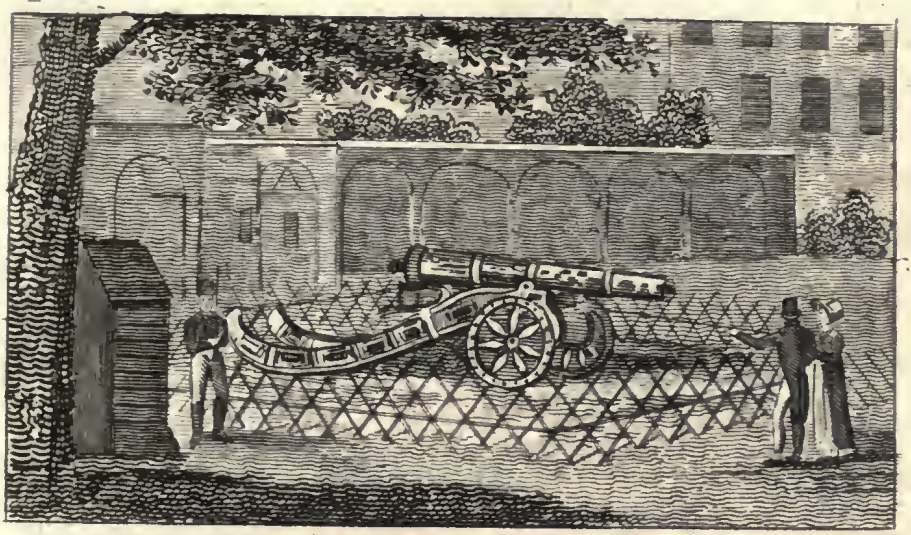
"This Park was considerably improved, as well as enlarged, my dears," continued Mr. Beresford, "by Charles the Second; who employed La Notre, the celebrated gardener of Louis the Sixteenth, to lay out what is denominated the Mall into a hollow smooth walk, enclosed by a border of wood on each side, with an iron hoop at one end, for the purpose of playing a certain fashionable game, from which this place received its name. He also contracted the water into a canal, 100 feet broad,

with a decoy, and other ponds for water fowl. In the Bird-cage-walk he had an aviary, and the trees were hung with bird-cages. Here the facetious monarch used to amuse himself with feeding ducks, and playing with his dogs, amidst crowds of spectators, to whom he endeared himself by the condescending affability of his manners. On Monday, August 1, 1814, a grand fête was given in this park, to commemorate the peace; when a Chinese pagoda and bridge were erected over the canal, which, when illuminated, resembled a structure of shining gold. The canal was provided with boats gaily decorated, and the whole margin of the lawn had marquees with seats, and booths for refreshments. Between these appeared the flags of every nation. Bands of music attended, to add to the pleasure of the spectators. In the Green Park there was a grand display of fire-works from a noble building, which had the appearance of a castle or fortress; discharges of artillery and small arms were intended to convey an idea of the terrors of a siege. On a sudden this ceased, and the lofty fortress—the emblem of war, was suddenly transformed into a beautiful temple, dedicated to Concord, which was splendidly illuminated. The allegorical representations on this Temple were well imagined, and beautifully executed. The Mall of St. James's Park was illuminated with Chinese

lanterns, whose variegated lights, mingling with the foliage of the trees from which they hung, had a pleasing and novel effect. Hyde Park had also its attractions. It was one great fair, full of booths, stalls, and mimic theatres. On the Serpentine river was displayed a *Naumachia*, or sea-fight, performed by a number of small vessels fitted up and rigged like men-of-war, bearing French, English, and American colours. This amusement concluded by a grand display of water rockets, which were extremely curious."

## PIECE OF TURKISH ORDNANCE AND, GRAND MORTAR.

On the north side of the Parade Mr. Beresford pointed out a piece of Turkish ordnance, encircled by a *chevaux-de-frize* fence, which was taken by the British troops at Alexandria in Egypt. It is mounted on a carriage ornamented with hieroglyphics. Opposite the Horse Guards is placed the GRAND MORTAR, formerly called the Regent's Bomb, brought from the siege of Cadiz in 1812, and presented to his present Majesty by the Spanish Regency in 1814. It is eight feet in length, twelve inches in diameter at the mouth, and is said to be capable of throwing a shell to the distance of



*Turkish Ordnance.* page 164.

*The Waterloo Bridge.* page 115.

*Somerset House.* page 118.

*Published Nov.r 20 1818. by J. Harris. Corner of S.t Pauls.*

three miles. The carriage, which was made at Woolwich, is decorated with emblematical figures, illustrative of part of the labours of Hercules; and a Latin inscription intimates the way in which the mortar was obtained, and the feelings of respect and gratitude with which it was presented by the Spanish nation.

Mr. Beresford now observed, that one of the regiments of Foot Guards parades in this Park every day, between ten and eleven o'clock, attended by a band of musicians; and afterwards proceeds to relieve the regiment on duty at St. James's Palace, where the bands of both play alternately for about twenty minutes. He also stated that a great improvement had been effected in the nocturnal appearance of St. James's Park, by the introduction of gas lamps, towards the close of the year 1821.

The young people now returned to their uncle's house, perfectly satisfied with the amusement they had received, yet longing for the morrow, which was to impart to them fresh knowledge, and fresh pleasure.

When the wished-for morning came, our little party were prevented from taking their excursion by the unexpected arrival of visitors, who spent the day with Mr. Beresford: but on the next morn-

ing they proceeded, immediately after breakfast, to Charing Cross, and, turning towards the left, the first object which claimed their attention was the

## ADMIRALTY OFFICE.

This is a large and massy edifice, built with brick and stone, on the site of Wallingford House, where Archbishop Usher took a last view of his sovereign Charles the First. It consists of a centre and two wings, having a portico in front, supported by four stone pillars of the Ionic order; the screen which separates the court from the street, has an arched gateway in the centre, surmounted by a balustrade, and ornamented with naval emblems. The interior of the centre is divided into a noble hall and other public apartments, and the wings are appropriated for the residence of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. On the top of the edifice is a telegraph, by means of which, intelligence is received from various parts of the coast with surprising celerity.

At a short distance from the Admiralty, and on the same side of the street, Mr. Beresford pointed out

## THE HORSE GUARDS.

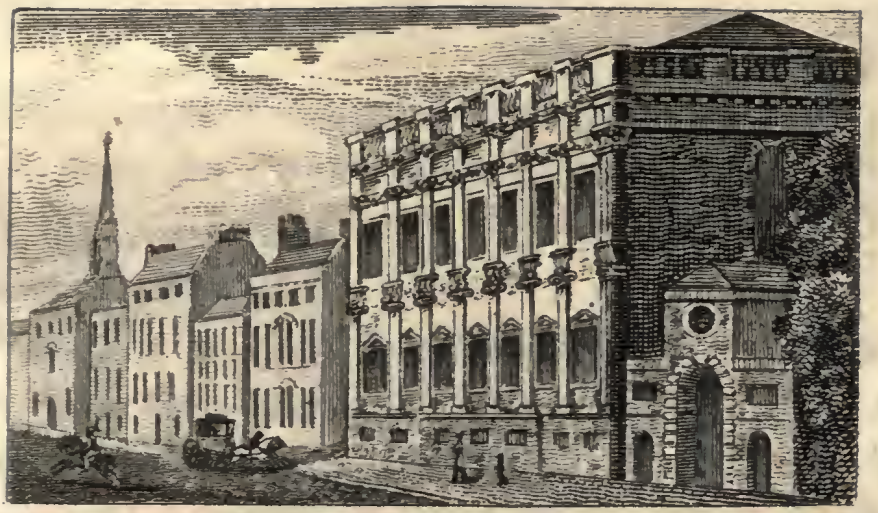
A building which is so called from its being the station where that part of the king's troops do duty. It is a substantial edifice of hewn stone, consisting of a centre and two wings, erected about the year 1750. In the centre is an arched passage leading into St. James's Park, and over it, in the middle, rises a handsome cupola, with a clock. In the front of the court are two small arched ways, in which sentries in full uniform mount guard every day. The interior of the building contains the office of the commander-in-chief, and other offices for the war department.

Adjoining to the Horse Guards, and now nearly covered with offices belonging to that establishment, is the Tilt-yard, the scene of military recreations in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and his daughter Elizabeth, who had a strong predilection for such amusements. In the year 1581, she gave a grand tournament in honour of the French commissioners, who came over to propose a marriage between her Majesty and the Duke of Anjou. Sometimes, however, the Tilt-yard was the theatre of exhibitions very inferior to the exploits of chivalrous knights; for history informs us that, toward the close of her life, Elizabeth ordered both

bull and bear baiting to be exhibited there, with rope-dancing, by a celebrated performer from France.

## WHITEHALL

Was originally built by Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent. At his death he left it to the Black Friars, who sold it to Walter de Gray, Bishop of York, from whom it derived the title of York House. It was here that the munificent and proud Cardinal Wolsey was compelled to lay aside all his greatness. His disgrace put the rapacious and inconstant Henry the Eighth in possession of this palace, which then became his residence, and that of succeeding sovereigns. The present building is only an addition to the old palace made by James the First, according to a design of Inigo Jones, who rebuilt the banqueting rooms. George the First converted the interior of the Banqueting-house into a chapel, the ceiling of which is exquisitely beautiful. It was painted by Sir Peter Paul Rubens, when ambassador at this court; and his labours are said to have been remunerated by the sum of three thousand pounds; whilst the architect received only eight shillings and four pence a-day, besides a trifling sum for house rent, a clerk, &c.



*Whitehall.* *page* 168

*The Treasury.* *page* 172

*Westminster Abbey, &c.* *page* 172

*Published Nov. 20. 1818. by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

This chapel contains the eagles and other trophies taken from the French in the Spanish campaigns, and deposited here with great solemnity in the spring of 1811.

"It was at the Banqueting-house in Whitehall," said Mr. Beresford, "that the four Inns of Court entertained King Charles the First and his royal consort, in the year 1634, with a splendid and expensive *masque*, to which the masquers and their company went in grand procession from Ely House in Holborn. At the head of the cavalcade marched twenty footmen in scarlet liveries with silver lace, each having a sword, a baton, and a torch. These preceded the marshal, who was superbly habited, and mounted upon one of the king's best horses. After him came about a dozen trumpeters, preceding one hundred gentlemen of the inns of court, mounted on beautiful horses, and attended by pages bearing torches. After the horsemen came the *ante-masquers;* the first of which consisted of cripples and beggars, mounted on the poorest horses that could be procured, and furnished with keys, tongs, &c. instead of musical instruments. Next came a number of men, on horseback, playing upon pipes and whistles, so as to represent the notes of many different birds singing in concert. These were followed by the ante-masque of birds: viz. an owl in an ivy-bush, with

several sorts of other birds in a cluster about the owl. Next came other equestrian musicians playing upon bag-pipes, horn-pipes, and other northern instruments, preceding what was termed the masque of projectors; in which a fellow, with a capon on his fist, and a bunch of carrots on his head, solicited a patent for the invention of fattening capons with carrots. Other ante-masquers succeeded, and then came six of the chief musicians on horseback, habited as heathen priests, and followed by an open chariot filled with persons who assumed the appearance of gods and goddesses. Other musicians preceded the *grand masquers*,—a company of handsome young gentlemen, splendidly habited in cloth of silver tissue, thickly studded with spangles, and wearing sprigs in their caps. Their chariots resembled the triumphant cars of the Romans, and were drawn by four horses abreast, richly caparisoned. Each of these contained four persons from the different inns of court, attended by footmen carrying flambeaux; which, together with the torches, gave such a lustre to the gilding and painting of the carriages, the trappings of the horses, and the dresses of the masquers, that nothing could be conceived more fascinating and brilliant. The same historian informs us, that the performance of the masque before their majesties was *incomparably* excellent in the scenes, music,

speeches, and dancing. The queen condescended to dance with some of the masquers, and the sports continued till it was almost morning; when the gentlemen of the inns of court were regaled with a sumptuous banquet, and afterwards retired to their own quarters.

"Never," continued Mr. Beresford, "was a more striking lesson afforded of the instability and vanity of human greatness, than that which may be deduced from contrasting this account with the melancholy fact, that the same monarch who had been thus magnificently entertained in this palace, should have gone from the same edifice, in less than fifteen years, to suffer death by the hands of an executioner! The royal martyr lost his head on a scaffold in front of this building, on the 30th of January, 1649, and was led through an opening made in the north wall, now forming the doorway to a modern erection at that end of the chapel."

At the back of the Banqueting-house, in what is styled Scotland Yard, is a fine statue, in brass, of James the Second, executed by Grinlin Gibbons, about a year before the abdication of the throne. The likeness is said to be very correct; the attitude is good, and the statue is altogether so well worthy of attention that it is almost to be regretted that it is placed in such an obscure situation.

On the other side of the street and very near to the Horse Guards is

## THE TREASURY.

Which, however, is only seen to advantage from the Parade in St. James's Park. It is a handsome stone edifice, the front of which consists of three stories, and displays, at one view, the Tuscan, the Doric, and the Ionic orders of architecture,—the whole being surmounted by a pediment. That part of the Treasury which is opposite to Whitehall is part of the old Whitehall Palace, erected by Wolsey, but it has undergone many alterations.

## WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

"We must dedicate some hours to an examination of the interior of this venerable and noble edifice," said Mr. Beresford, "as it contains too many beauties both of architecture and sculpture to be passed over hastily." The time of its foundation is uncertain, though history affirms that Sebert, king of the East Saxons, was the founder, who dedicated it to St. Peter. Edward the Confessor rebuilt the church in 1065; and Pope Nicholas II. appointed it the place of inauguration for the sovereigns of England. The present church

was built by Henry the Third, and his successor, excepting the towers at the western entrance, which are the work of Sir Christopher Wren. Its length is 360 feet, the breadth of the nave 72 feet, and the length of the cross aisle 195 feet. The Gothic arches which separate the nave from the side aisles are so judiciously disposed, that, on entering at the west door, the whole body of the church presents itself to view, terminating with the beautiful painted window over the portico of Henry the Seventh's chapel. The great west window exhibits an interesting specimen of the ancient art of painting on glass, and contains representations of the Jewish patriarchs, together with Moses and Aaron. The choir, which was materially injured by an accidental fire in 1803, has undergone considerable improvement, and may now be pronounced one of the most beautiful in Europe. It is executed in the ancient Gothic style, and the happy mixture of simplicity with ornament produces the most pleasing effect. It also possesses this peculiar advantage, that upon certain occasions it can be removed, to admit of more extensive fabrications, and can be replaced without difficulty and at a moderate expense. From the western part of the great aisle it is divided by a handsome pair of iron gates; on the north and south sides it is enclosed by beautiful stalls; and on the east it is terminated by an altar

of white marble, which, though extremely elegant, forms a striking contrast with the general architecture of the Abbey. This is surrounded by a curious balustrade, within which is a beautiful mosaic pavement, said to have been laid down in the year 1272. The floor of the choir is paved with black and white marble; and the roof is ornamented with white tiles, divided into compartments, and bordered with carved work richly gilded. Opposite the north-west pillar of the tower stands the pulpit, supported by an elegant clustered column. On each corner is a small pillar terminating in a cherub, and within the pannels is a flower of twelve leaves. The sounding-board is pinnacled on the sides and top, and is supported by a palm-tree of delicate workmanship.

According to the custom of ancient times, Westminster Abbey contains several separate chapels; and the first of these is that of Edward the Confessor, situated just behind the altar of the church upon a raised floor, to which there is an ascent by a flight of steps. The shrine in the centre was erected by Henry the Third, and was ornamented with a curious mosaic work of coloured stones. A lamp which stood before it was kept constantly burning, and on each side were placed various rich offerings, comprising two images of the Blessed Virgin, one of silver, the other of ivory. At pre-

sent, however, the shrine is neglected and defaced; the wooden Ionic top is broken and covered with dust; the mosaic is picked away in almost every part within reach, and even the inscription on the architrave is partly obliterated. This chapel is the repository of several other royal monuments. That of Henry the Third is distinguished by pannels of polished porphyry, surrounded by mosaic work of gold and scarlet, and exhibits the statue of the monarch in gilded brass. The remains of that warlike Prince, Edward the First, repose in a plain tomb of grey marble, which has sustained but little injury. At the request of the Society of Antiquaries, this tomb was opened in the year 1770, and the royal body was found wrapped in a strong linen cloth waxed on the inside. The head and face were covered with a facecloth of crimson sarcenet, wrapped into three folds; and on throwing open the external mantle, the corpse was discovered richly habited in all the ensigns of majesty. The body was wrapped in a fine cerecloth, closely fitted to every part, even to the face and fingers. Over the cerecloth was a tunic of red silk damask; above that a stole of thick white tissue crossed the breast; and on this, at the distance of six inches, were ornaments of filigree work set with coloured stones, in imitation of rubies, sapphires, and amethysts; and in the spaces

between these ornaments, were a profusion of small white beads, tacked down in an elegant embroidery. Above these habits was the royal mantle of crimson satin, fastened on the shoulder by a superb ornament of gilt metal, set with paste and pearls. From the waist downwards the corpse was covered with a cloth of figured gold, which descended to the feet, and was tacked beneath them. In the king's right hand was a sceptre of copper gilt, with a cross of exquisite workmanship. In the left hand was the rod with the dove; and on the head was a crown, ornamented with trefoils of gilt metal. The tomb of Edward the Third is of brass, adorned with various beautiful ornaments, and surrounded by his children in the character of angels. Here also are monuments to the memory of Richard the Second, who was deposed, and murdered in Pomfret Castle; Editha, the amiable and accomplished wife of the Confessor; Eleanor, the affectionate queen of Edward the First; Philippa, the heroic consort of Edward the Third; and Anne, first wife of the unfortunate Richard. Here also are kept the ancient chairs used at the coronation of the kings and queens of England; the long rusty iron sword of Edward the Third, and the wooden part of his shield, said to have been carried before that monarch in France. And here is shewn, within a glass case, a waxen figure of Edmund Sheffield,

Duke of Buckingham, who died in the nineteenth year of his age. The figure is recumbent, richly dressed in a robe of crimson velvet, trimmed with ermine, crowned with a ducal coronet, and holding in the right hand a golden stick about a yard in length.

The chapel of Henry the Fifth is separated from that of the Confessor by an iron screen, on each side of which are statues as large as life. The tomb of the monarch is very plain, and the effigy is without a head; which, having been formed of beaten silver, fell a prey, in the time of Oliver Cromwell, to the rapacity of some sacrilegious plunderer.

In the chapel, or chantry, of the Abbot Islip are some wainscot presses, faced with glass, and containing waxen figures of Queen Elizabeth, King William and Queen Mary, Queen Anne, and the late Earl of Chatham; the latter is admirably executed, and appears in the identical dress which he wore in Parliament.

Around these chapels are several others dedicated to different saints; in which, as well as in the aisles, the naves, and the north and south crosses, are a profusion of marble monuments, erected to the memory of distinguished individuals. Among the most remarkable are those of General Wolfe, Sir Cloudesley Shovel, Major André, Sir Eyre Coote, Jonas Hanway, Lord Mansfield, the Earl of Chatham, the late Right Hon. William

Pitt, and Sir Isaac Newton. In the south transept, generally called Poet's Corner, are monuments to the memory of Ben Jonson, Dryden, Cowley, Chaucer, Butler, Milton, Gray, Prior, Shakspeare, Rowe, Gay, Goldsmith, Addison, Handel, and many others.

The ascent to the chapel of Henry the Seventh is from the east end of the Abbey, by steps of black marble under a stately portico. The gates are of brass, and curiously wrought in the manner of framework, the pannels being ornamented alternately with a rose and portcullis. The roof, which is entirely of stone, is enriched with a surprising variety of figures. The pavement is of black and white marble; and the stalls are of brown wainscot, beautifully carved with various devices, and surmounted by Gothic canopies. Here are installed, with great ceremony, the Knights of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath. In their stalls are placed brass plates of their arms, and over them hang their banners, swords, and helmets. Beneath the stalls are seats for the esquires, whose arms are also engraved on brass plates.

The principal object of admiration here is the magnificent tomb of the royal founder. It is formed of a basaltic stone, ornamented with gilded brass, and surrounded by a superb railing of the same description. The ornaments chiefly allude

to his family and alliances; hence the portcullisses imply his relation to the Beauforts, by his mother's side; the roses intertwined and crowned allude to his marriage, which united the Houses of Lancaster and York; and the crown in a bush refers to the diadem of Richard the Third, which was found in a hawthorn hedge near Bosworth Field, and which was placed on the brow of Henry by his victorious troops. Many other royal personages repose in this chapel, and have monuments and inscriptions to their memories; and in a fine vault beneath the pavement is the burying-place of the royal family, erected by King George the Second. In the south aisle is a wainscot press containing a waxen figure of King Charles the Second, dressed in the robes which he wore at Windsor, at the installation of the Knights of the Garter; and in the north aisle is preserved the armour of General Monk.

The exterior of this beautiful chapel appeared, some time since, to be falling into decay; but within the last few years it has been repaired, and restored according to the original plan, and now exhibits a specimen of light and elaborate Gothic architecture, which is worthy of universal admiration.

Some recent improvements have also laid the venerable edifice of the Abbey open to view, by removing the houses which formerly surrounded it,

and forming a square before it, planted with low shrubs.

"Of the magnificent appearance of Westminster Abbey, as fitted up for the coronation of our present Gracious Sovereign King George the Fourth, on the 19th of July, 1821," said Mr. Beresford, "a tolerably accurate idea may be formed by this engraving, which I purposely placed in my pocket-book for your inspection and amusement."

From the south aisle of the Abbey there are two entrances into the cloisters; and on one side of these, a magnificent Gothic portal leads into the Chapter-house, which is built in an octagonal form, and supported by a clustered column of beautiful workmanship. By permission of the Abbot the Commons of England first held their Parliaments in this place, in the year 1377, and continued to assemble here till 1547, when St. Stephen's Chapel was given to them by Edward the Sixth. At present it is occupied by the public records, comprising the original Domesday-book, which, though upwards of 700 years old, appears as fresh as if it had been recently written.

Beneath the Chapter-house is a crypt or subterraneous chapel, the roof of which is supported by massy ribs, diverging from the top of a short hollow pillar. The walls are 18 feet in thickness, and form a solid base to the superstructure.

The Jerusalem Chamber formed one of the Abbot's apartments; and here Edward the Fourth breathed his last, after having been seized with a fainting fit whilst praying before the shrine of the Confessor.

Near the Abbey stood the *Sanctuary*, where criminals guilty of particular offences were allowed, by law, to take refuge. And to the west of this was the *Almonry*, where the gifts of the monks were distributed to the poor; and where William Caxton, in 1474, set up the first printing-press known in England.

At a short distance from the north door of the Abbey is

## ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH;

Which was originally built in the reign of Edward the Confessor, but has been rebuilt since that time, and repaired repeatedly at the expense of parliament; particularly in the years 1735, 1758, and 1803. It contains the ashes of that great, but unfortunate man Sir Walter Raleigh, who was buried here on the same day that he was beheaded in Old Palace Yard; and it is the church in which the members of the House of Commons attend divine service on particular occasions. The beautiful window of painted glass, at the east end, was de-

signed by the magistrates at Dort, in Holland, as a present for Henry the Seventh; but as the death of that monarch happened previous to its completion, it passed through several hands, and was finally purchased by the inhabitants of St. Margaret's parish in 1758, for the sum of 400 guineas. This splendid ornament exhibits the complete history of our Redeemer's crucifixion; and the figures are so admirably executed, that the muscles of every limb are clearly perceptible. Over the communion-table is a remarkably fine bas-relief, representing Christ and the two disciples at Emmaus; but as a decoration of a *Protestant* church this is truly ridiculous,—as one of the disciples is dressed like a *Catholic friar*, with a *cardinal's hat* hung across his shoulders, and the other disciple is attended by a page in an Italian habit, and having in his hat a plume of feathers!!

The next object of attention pointed out by Mr. Beresford was

## THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The exterior of this edifice, situated in Old Palace Yard, has no pretensions to architectural beauty. There is a Gothic colonnade, however, in the front, which connects the two entrances,—one designed for the use of the Peers, the other for

his Majesty when he goes in state. The interior is hung with tapestry, representing the victory over the Spanish Armada, and the border of the piece is embellished with the heads of the naval heroes who commanded on that interesting occasion. In the robing chamber is a curious piece of old tapestry, representing the birth of Queen Elizabeth; but the loss of part of the arras, which has been removed to make a passage for the door, has occasioned a defect in the delineation of the story.

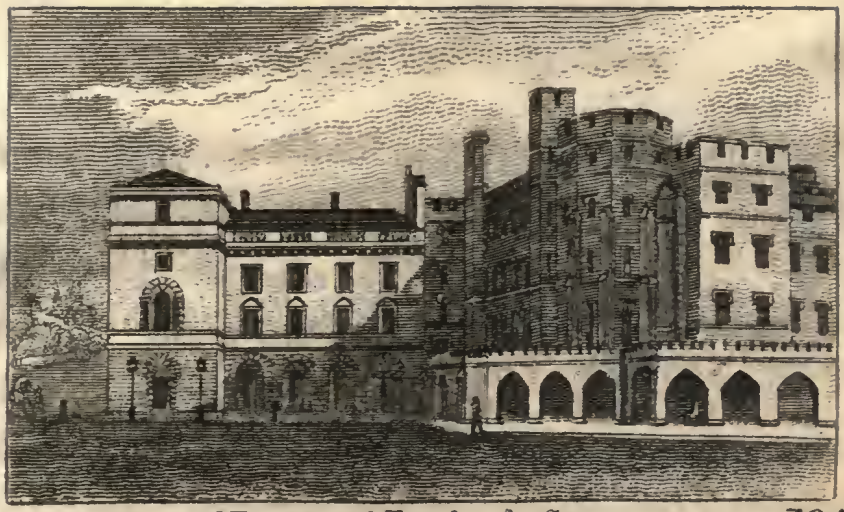
The room in which the peers now assemble is of an oblong form, and rather smaller than that which is occupied by the commons. In 1820 it was furnished with a new and superb throne, consisting of a magnificent canopy of crimson velvet, supported by two columns richly gilt, and adorned with oak leaves and acorns, and surmounted by the Imperial crown.

Adjoining to Old Palace Yard is the vault called *Guy Fawkes's cellar*, where the conspirators of 1605 deposited the barrels of gunpowder, with which they expected to have destroyed the three estates of the realm at one blow. The ceremony of examining the vaults at the commencement of every session is still continued; "and I suppose, my dears," continued Mr. Beresford, "you are aware that on the 5th of November the boys in this metropolis amuse themselves by carrying

about figures dressed up to resemble Guy Fawkes, and that these figures on the approach of night are committed to the flames, amidst discharges of such fire-works as they are able to procure. The latter practice, however, has materially diminished of late, in consequence of the prohibition annually issued by the magistrates for the prevention of accidents.

## THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Was originally a chapel, erected by King Stephen, and dedicated to the Saint from whom he received his baptismal name. In 1347 it was rebuilt by Edward the Third, and made a collegiate church, under the superintendence of a dean and twelve secular priests. Soon after its suppression, it was granted to the commons of England by Edward the Sixth, and here they have held their parliaments ever since. The west front, with its beautiful window, is still visible, and consists of the sharp pointed species of Gothic; but the interior has been fitted up with great plainness,—convenience rather than ornament having been the chief object in contemplation. There are galleries on each side of the house; but only one of these is appropriated for the accommodation of strangers. The speaker's chair stands



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*The Speaker's House.* page 187

*Westminster Bridge.* page 192

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at some distance from the wall, and is richly ornamented with gilding, having the royal arms at the top. Before the chair is a table where the clerks sit, who read the bills, take minutes of the proceedings, &c. In the centre of the house, between the table and the bar, is a spacious area. There are five rows of seats for the members, rising gradually above each other, with short backs and green morocco cushions. These occupy each side and both ends of the room, with the exception of the passages. The Treasury bench, on which many of the members of the administration sit, is on the right hand side of the speaker, and the seats occupied by the leading members of opposition are directly opposite.

## THE SPEAKER'S HOUSE

Was formerly a court of the Old Palace; but in the year 1803 it was considerably enlarged and beautified by Mr. Wyatt, who added two pinnacles to the east end of the chapel. The Speaker can go into the House of Commons from his own apartments; and during the sitting of Parliament he is attended through the lobby by a mace-bearer, train-bearer, &c.

## WESTMINSTER HALL

Is said to have been originally built by William Rufus, and was first used as a banqueting-house to the palace, which occupied the site of the Old Palace Yard. In 1397 it was repaired and improved by Richard the Second, who kept his Christmas festival here, with all the splendour and extravagant luxury by which his reign was characterized. The number of cooks employed on this occasion amounted to two thousand, and the guests on each day of the feast exceeded ten thousand!

The dimensions of this hall exceed those of any room in Europe unsupported by pillars; its length being 270 feet, its breadth 74, and its height 90. The roof, which consists principally of chesnut-wood, exhibits a fine specimen of Gothic architecture, and is every where ornamented with angels, supporting the arms of Richard the Second or those of the Confessor. In 1820 the beautiful Gothic windows at the extremities were reconstructed, and the whole hall was repaired and beautified. The front is adorned with two stone towers, embellished with rich sculpture, and on the centre of the roof is an elegant lantern, erected in 1821.

The courts of Chancery, King's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, have been held in different apartments in this hall ever since the reign of Henry the Third. It is also used for the trial of peers, and other distinguished individuals, accused of high crimes and misdemeanors: here the unfortunate Charles the First was condemned to suffer death by his own subjects. Westminster Hall is also the place where the British sovereigns hold their coronation feasts.

'Twas here, when George the Fourth was crown'd,
A banquet grac'd each table;
And I 'll describe the sumptuous feast
As well as I am able.

Of beef, of mutton, and of veal,
The cooks did then provide
Full five-and-thirty thousand pounds
And forty-nine beside.

Three thousand pounds and forty-two,
If I am not mistaken,
Was just the weight of suet, lard,
Of butter, and fat bacon.

Of house-lamb twenty legs were seen,
As many quarters too,
And five fine saddles, smoking hot,
Were plac'd within our view.

Of grass-lamb quarters fifty-five
The tables did display;
And lambkins' sweetbreads just eight score
Were cook'd upon that day.

Cow-heels three hundred eighty-nine
To make the soups were wanted;
A hundred calves' feet four times told
Were for the jellies granted.

Pullets and capons there were dress'd
Seven hundred, Sir, and twenty,
And though but eight score geese we saw,
We thought that these seem'd plenty.

Of chicks and fowls two thousand, then,
Six score and ten were counted;
And eggs when we by *hundreds* told
To eighty-four amounted.

Then eight score large tureens of soup,
Dishes of fish as many,
With ven'son eighty dishes more,—
Cost *somebody* a penny!

Twice eighty dishes next came up
With vegetables stor'd,
Whilst two-and-thirty score were plac'd
With pastry on the board.

Of shell-fish, if I recollect,
The dishes were eight score;
Whilst creams and jellies occupied
Four hundred dishes more.

The royal banquet to complete,
So splendid and so weighty,
Of sauce th' attendants then served up
Four hundred boats and eighty.

But perhaps it may be justly thought,
And perhaps you may be thinking,
That, as the English proverb says,
"Good cheer deserves good drinking."

Well, well, be still, and you shall hear,
That all the wines, when counted,
To eighty dozen ten times told
And twenty more amounted.

One hundred gallons of ic'd punch
Were cheerfully divided,
And barrels ten times ten of ale
And porter were provided.

Now, let us sing, Long may the King
Enjoy his elevation;
Whilst we admire the splendid feast
Which grac'd his coronation.

## WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.

"The first stone of this beautiful bridge," said Mr. Beresford, "was laid on the 24th of January, 1739, by Henry Earl of Pembroke, a nobleman admired for his taste in architecture. The architect was a foreigner of the name of Labelye. Grandeur and simplicity are here united. The length is 1223 feet, and the arches thirteen in number. From hence you have a fine view, my dear children, of the

## VAUXHALL BRIDGE,

Which crosses the Thames from Milbank to Cumberland Gardens. The length of this bridge is about 800 feet, the sides are guarded by iron palisadoes, through which the foot passenger has an uninterrupted view of the beautiful scenery which the banks of the river afford.

"On the south side of the river, and about a mile and a half from the spot where we now are standing," continued Mr. Beresford, "is the elegant and fashionable place of summer resort, called

## VAUXHALL GARDENS;

Where, in the season, all the charms of vocal and instrumental music are united, with a display of the most superb illuminations, and the most charming fire-works, to excite the attention and insure the patronage of the public. Nearly opposite the west door, at the end of a walk hung with thousands of variegated lamps, and embellished with transparent devices, is a sumptuous orchestra; where, in fine weather, the musical entertainments are performed by a select band; and immediately opposite is a splendid pavilion, which particularly excites attention by its size and the beauty of its ornaments. In cold or rainy weather the musicians and singers perform in a rotunda 70 feet in diameter, and containing an elegant orchestra. Beyond is a piazza of five arches, opening into a semicircle, with a temple and dome at each end. In the centre is a grand portico of the Doric order, and under the arch is a beautiful marble statue of Handel, in the character of Orpheus, playing on his lyre. The different boxes and apartments in the gardens are embellished with paintings, many of which are by Hogarth and Hayman; and at convenient distances bands of music are placed for the convenience of those who wish to dance after

the regular performances of the evening are concluded. These gardens generally open in May, and close toward the end of August.

"The octagonal edifice surrounded by walls, on the same side of the river as Westminster Abbey, is the Milbank

## PENITENTIARY,

Enclosing a space of about eighteen acres, on which are erected seven distinct though connected buildings, and all the rooms face the house in the centre, where the governor resides. It was erected for the reception of convicts and others, who are confined there for a certain time, instead of being sent on board the hulks at Woolwich."

After crossing the bridge, our little party soon came within sight of

## DAVIS'S AMPHITHEATRE,

Where pantomimes, burlettas, and various feats of rope-dancing and horsemanship are exhibited during the summer. It was first established in the year 1767 as an open riding-school; but in 1783 it was roofed in and converted into a regular theatre. Since that time it has been twice destroyed by fire, but has been rebuilt with considerable improve-

ments. The horsemanship is particularly attractive; and Mr. Beresford remarked, that he had, on one occasion, been as much gratified by the docility of the horses, as by the equestrian skill of their riders. "Two of those beautiful creatures," said he, "performed a minuet with the utmost gracefulness; a third, elevated on the stage and in the full blaze of the lamps, danced with surprising precision to the music of 'Nancy Dawson;' and a fourth not only picked the clown's pocket of his handkerchief, and waved it in triumph before the audience, but took a tea-kettle of boiling water from a fire, and galloped with it in his mouth round the circular ride.

"It seems, however," continued Mr. Beresford, "that the tricks performed by horses in ancient times surpassed any of those which are exhibited in the present day. And if I mistake not, I have some drawings in my pocket-book which will convince you of this fact. Here you see is one horse dancing upon his *hinder* feet to the sound of a pipe and tabor; whilst another rears up as if in combat with his master, who opposes him with a shield and cudgel; and the two remaining animals are beating on a kind of drum, one with his fore feet and the other with his hinder ones; which is certainly more surprising than the dances I wit-

nessed, which were performed by the horses on their four feet.

"What is called the Surrey Theatre, in Blackfriar's Road, and Sadler's Wells, near Islington, are summer theatres of much the same description: but in the former, horses are only occasionally introduced; and in the latter, one of the favourite attractions consists of aquatic exhibitions, something like the *Naumachia* of the Romans."

The next object pointed out by Mr. Beresford to his nephews and nieces, was the

## ASYLUM FOR FEMALE ORPHANS;

Which was instituted in 1758, principally in consequence of the suggestion and recommendation of Sir John Fielding. It has a handsome chapel, supplied by popular preachers, and the singing is very attractive. The public are admitted to the celebration of divine service on Sundays; but a collection is made on entrance, for the benefit of the children, whose healthy and comfortable appearance cannot fail to excite the admiration of the spectators.

On the opposite side of the road is the

## FREEMASONS' SCHOOL,

Founded in 1788, for clothing, maintaining, and educating the female children and orphans of indigent freemasons. It is a very neat brick edifice, and the front is appropriately ornamented with statues of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

At the junction of the roads leading from the bridges of Westminster, Waterloo, London, and Blackfriars, stands

## THE OBELISK;

Which, Mr. Beresford observed, was erected in honour of Brass Crosby, Lord Mayor of London, who suffered a temporary confinement in the Tower for having discharged certain magisterial duties too conscientiously. This spot, in an evening, presents a brilliant spectacle to travellers, from the numerous avenues of lamps which line the different roads diverging from it; and Pennant relates an anecdote of a foreign ambassador, who entering London by this way, at night, conceived the idea that the metropolis was illuminated in honour of his arrival, and gravely remarked, that it was "more than he could have expected."

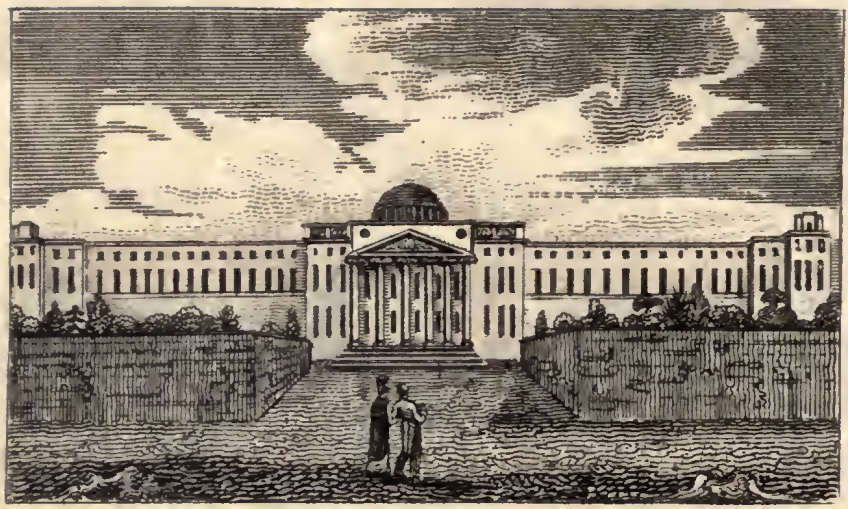
Almost immediately contiguous to the Obelisk is the

## SCHOOL FOR THE INDIGENT BLIND.

The laudable object of which is to instruct the blind in trades that may enable them to procure their own subsistence. Extensive manufactures are here carried on in thread, lines, mats, baskets, &c. and such success has crowned this excellent institution, that in less than eight years, thirty blind persons have been returned to their families, with the means of earning from seven to eighteen shillings per week. Children are not admitted under twelve years of age; but additional years beyond those of maturity form no disqualification, whilst the fingers remain flexible, and the strength unimpaired.

## THE CHAPEL OF THE PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETY,

Belongs to the charity of that name, situated to the south of the Obelisk. This noble institution receives the children of criminals and profligates, and instructs them in different trades under the tuition of masters. It receives within its walls both male and female children. Lord Cremorne and other benevolent persons were the first suggestors of this excellent charity. The chapel is well attended, the religious duties are duly per-



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*Philanthropic Chapel.* page 198

*Magdalen Hospital.* page 210

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formed, and the singing, like that of the Foundling and Asylum, is more than commonly pleasing to those who generously give their mite towards those benevolent institutions.

## NEW BETHLEM HOSPITAL,

Near the Lambeth Road, is a royal foundation for the reception of lunatics, incorporated by Henry the Eighth. The old hospital was situated in Moorfields, and was built in imitation of the Tuileries at Paris; a circumstance which excited the indignation of Louis the Fourteenth. The present edifice is immensely large and handsome, and is said to have cost about £100,000. The front is very magnificent, consisting of a centre and two wings, which form a range of building 580 feet in length. The centre is crowned by a dome, and decorated with a portico of six Ionic columns, supporting the arms of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The interior is fitted up in the most judicious manner, and affords accommodation for about 200 patients. The two beautiful figures of Raving and Melancholy Madness, executed by the father of Colley Cibber, and formerly placed at the entrance of the old hospital, now form appropriate decorations to the hall, having been repaired by Mr. Bacon in 1820.

## HORSEMONGER-LANE PRISON.

"The sight of a prison, my dears," said Mr. Beresford, "is calculated to excite ideas of the most painful nature: yet to secure order and decorum, as well as to preserve our lives and property, such places have become necessary. The present structure, which is the county gaol and the house of correction for Surrey, is extremely spacious, and, though surrounded by a strong wall, is open and healthy. The keeper's house is a handsome building on the west side. On the top of the lodge, on the north side of the prison, a temporary scaffold is erected for the execution of criminals; and here Colonel Despard and six of his associates were hanged and beheaded, for high treason, in 1803."

## KING'S BENCH PRISON.

This building, which contains about 220 apartments and a chapel, is surrounded by a very high wall, surmounted by a *chevaux-de-frize.* It is a place of confinement for debtors and those sentenced by the Court of King's Bench to suffer imprisonment for libels or misdemeanors. It was here that the spirited and upright Judge Gas-

coigne committed Henry the Fifth, when Prince of Wales, for having struck and insulted him on the bench. There is also another prison, called the Marshalsea, which is both a court of law and a prison, but this is fast falling to decay.

Mr. Beresford and his young friends now proceeded through Blackman Street, to the parish church of

## ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR,

Which is a handsome edifice of brick and stone, situated at the southern extremity of the Borough High Street. In the old church were deposited the unhallowed remains of the cruel Bishop Bonner, who died in the Marshalsea, where he had been confined many years; and the adjoining cemetery was the burial place of Cocker, the celebrated arithmetician.

## TOWN HALL, ST. MARGARET'S HILL,

Is a modern brick building with a stone front, consisting of a rustic basement, above which are several pilasters of the Ionic order, surmounted by a handsome balustrade. Here the steward of the City of London holds a court of record, once

every week, for the recovery of all debts, damages, &c. within his jurisdiction.

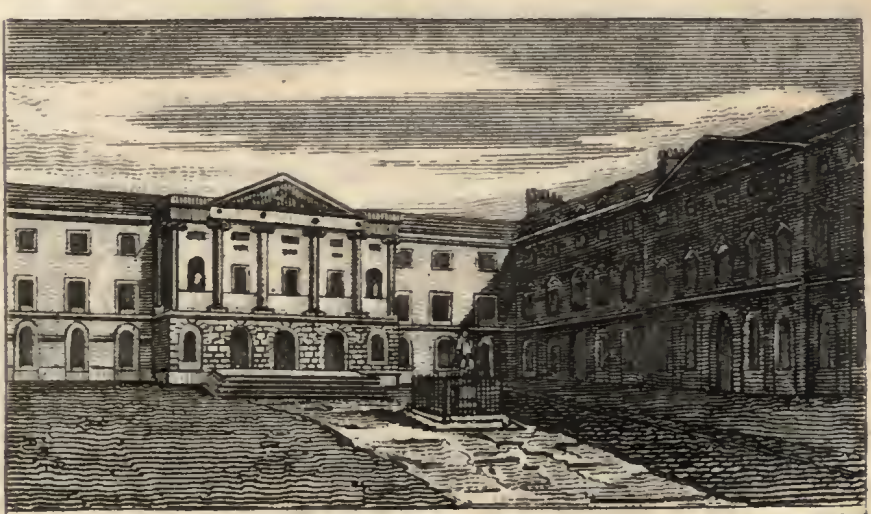
At a short distance from this hall is the Tabard, or, as it is now called, the Talbot Inn, over the entrance of which is the following inscription:—"This is the inn where Geoffrey Chaucer, knight, and nine and twenty pilgrims lodged, in their journey to Canterbury in 1383." In the yard is a picture representing their entrance into Canterbury, previous to their visiting the shrine of Thomas à Becket. The original inn was destroyed by fire in 1676, and the present edifice was erected on the site.

## ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL,

Situated near the middle of the High Street, Borough, is a royal foundation, being incorporated by Edward the Sixth, with Christ's Hospital and Bridewell. It is a very extensive edifice, consisting of three square courts. The first has a colonnade round three sides. The entrance is through a pair of handsome iron gates, and the side gates for foot passengers are fixed to stone piers, on each of which is placed a statue of a sick person. Opposite these gates, and beneath the clock, is a statue of Edward the Sixth, with four figures of the maimed and sick. In the second court, which is finer

*Kings Bench Prison.* page 200

*Cobourg Theatre.* page 117



*Guys Hospital.* page 203

*Published Nov. 20. 1818. by J. Harris, Corner of St. Pauls.*

than the first, is a brazen statue of the same king; and in the third court, there is a stone statue of Sir Robert Clayton, Lord Mayor of London. All accidents are received here by night or day without recommendation. To this hospital belong an elaboratory, a museum, a dissecting-room, and a theatre for public lectures. Thomas Frederick, Esq. and Thomas Guy erected at their sole expense all the wards which the first court contains.

## GUY'S HOSPITAL.

This excellent institution, situate in St. Thomas's Street in the Borough, owes its origin to Mr. Thomas Guy, a wealthy and benevolent citizen and bookseller of London; who, after bestowing immense sums on the hospital of St. Thomas, commenced the erection of this noble edifice at the age of seventy-six years, and lived to see it nearly completed. The expense of the building amounted to £18,793, and in addition to this, the noble spirited founder bequeathed the sum of £210,499 for its endowment.

The entrance to this hospital is by an iron gate, opening into a square, in the centre of which is a brass statue of Mr. Guy,—the pedestal being occupied on one side by an inscription, and on the other sides by the arms of the founder, and by

representations of the good Samaritan and our blessed Redeemer healing the impotent man. The building consists of a centre and two wings, and behind the former is a separate edifice for the reception of lunatics. One of the wings contains a hall and rooms for the transaction of public business; the other is occupied by the chapel, which contains a beautiful marble statue of Mr. Guy, standing in his liveryman's gown, with one hand raising a sick and distressed object, and with the other pointing to a patient carried by two persons into the hospital.

"The next object, my dear children," said Mr. Beresford, "to which I shall invite your attention is the parish church of

## ST. MARY OVERIE, OR ST. SAVIOUR,

Which is said to have belonged, before the Norman conquest, to a priory of nuns, founded by a maiden named Mary, who appropriated the profits of a ferry over the Thames towards its support. The convent was converted into a college of priests, and this gave place to a religious house for regular canons. It was destroyed by fire and rebuilt, though at what precise time is now uncertain. At the dissolution, the inhabitants purchased it of Henry the Eighth, and converted it into a parish

church, which, by the sanction of parliament, was united with that which then stood on St. Margaret's Hill. The present church is a venerable Gothic edifice, measuring 270 feet in length, and 54 in breadth, and is built with three aisles, running east and west, and a cross aisle, in the style of a cathedral. The roof of the body and the chancel is supported by twenty-six pillars; and the galleries in the walls of the choir are adorned with pillars and arches, somewhat similar to those in Westminster Abbey. Some of the monuments are well worthy of inspection, particularly that of John Gower, a poet, who was contemporary with Chaucer, and who appears to have been a liberal benefactor to this church. The tower contains twelve fine-toned bells, and is remarkable as the spot from which Holbar took his views of London, both before and after the great fire of 1666.

"A little to the north-west of this church," continued Mr. Beresford, "stood the Globe Theatre, celebrated as the place where Shakspeare first appeared before the public as an actor, though he sustained no higher character than that of the ghost in his own tragedy of Hamlet. It is said to have been an octagonal building, thatched with rushes; and its site is now occupied by part of one of the largest breweries in the metropolis, belonging to Messrs. Barclay and Perkins. In this neighbourhood

likewise was the Paris Garden, famed, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, for exhibitions of bear-baiting, which was at that time not only a favourite but a fashionable amusement."

"Fashionable!" exclaimed Miss Hastings; "surely, uncle, you do not mean that people of fashion attended such low and horrid spectacles."

"My love," replied Mr. Beresford, "you must perceive, from what I have already told you respecting the sports, pastimes, pageants, masques, and mummeries of 'the olden time,' that the taste of the Londoners has changed as much as the fashion of their clothes, or the architecture of their houses. Refinement and civilization have happily made rapid advances within a few centuries; but nothing is more certain than the historical fact, that *bear-baiting* was formerly considered a suitable spectacle for the entertainment of the gentry, nobility, and even majesty itself; and it is equally true, that on the spot to which I have just alluded, the courtiers of Elizabeth were repeatedly spectators of a scene which is, at present, never attended but by the lowest of the populace.

"The manner in which these disgraceful sports were exhibited towards the end of the 16th century is thus described by a foreigner, who had been a spectator at one of the performances: 'A place is erected somewhat in the form of a theatre, which

serves for baiting of bears. The animals are fastened behind, and then worried by great English bull-dogs, which, however, are frequently wounded, and sometimes killed in the contest. When this happens, other dogs are immediately introduced. To this entertainment there sometimes succeeds that of whipping a blinded bear, which is unmercifully performed by five or six men standing in a circle, with long whips, around their victim. Sometimes, however, the animal succeeds in seizing and breaking some of their whips; and on some occasions, when his persecutors venture too near, they are thrown down by the infuriated animal, and exposed to imminent danger.'

"Another writer (a native of England), in describing a bear-baiting which was exhibited in the presence of Queen Elizabeth, observes, that it was *very pleasant* to see the bear, with his pink eyes, leering after the approach of his enemies; whilst the dogs evinced the utmost caution and vigilance in taking an advantage; and Bruin, cunning from experience, evinced surprising skill in avoiding their attacks. If he were bitten in one place he would pinch his antagonist till he got free; and if he were once taken, it was curious to observe with what clawing, biting, roaring, tossing, and tumbling he would work and wind himself from his foes; and, when he was loose, how he would shake his

ears twice or thrice, with the blood and foam hanging about his rugged visage!! Yet such was the *taste* of former times, even among *ladies* of the most exalted rank, that when Queen Mary visited her sister, the Princess Elizabeth, during her confinement at Hatfield-house, the next morning, *after mass*, a grand exhibition of bear-baiting was made for their amusement, with which it is said their highnesses were right well content. And Elizabeth, soon after her accession to the throne, gave a splendid dinner to the French ambassadors, who were afterwards entertained with the baiting of bears and bulls; and the queen herself stood looking at the pastime till six o'clock in the evening. The next day the same ambassadors went by water to Paris Garden, where another baiting of bears and bulls was exhibited for their diversion."

The children shrugged their shoulders at this account, and Mr. Beresford perceiving that it was time to return home, told his young companions that *here* their researches must end, as they had now seen nearly all the principal public buildings which London contained. He observed, however, that he had a fund of amusement in store for them, as he intended to shew them all the exhibitions of paintings which were open, and to take them to the opera, and to the theatres. "This," said he, "with what you have already seen, will supply

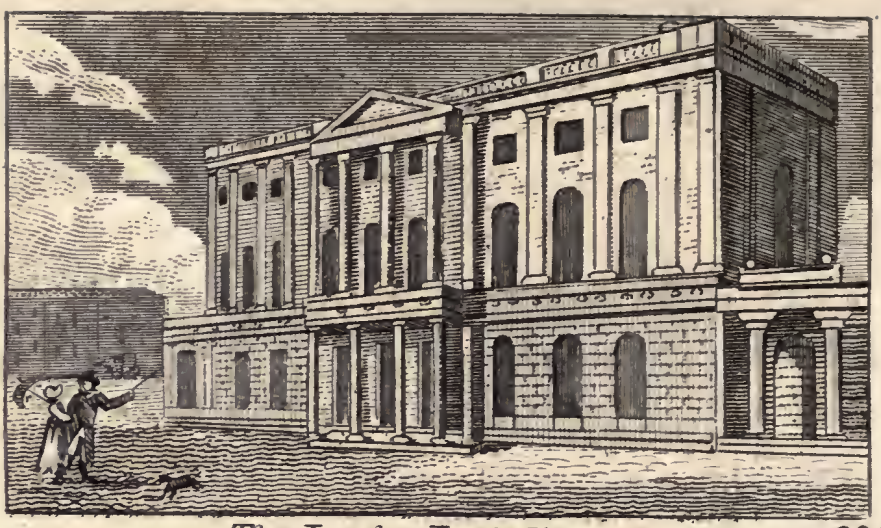
entertainment for the second week of your stay in London. The third shall not pass heavily with you, my darlings; for we will pay a visit to Hampton Court, Windsor, and Kew Palaces, taking care to notice in our way all the beautiful seats near town; and if we want longer time, I will write to your father to spare you another fortnight, that you may make a slight tour round the country, and examine its most beautiful ornaments, both natural and artificial. Let me hope, however, that you have received both instruction and amusement in your survey of the 'Beauties and Curiosities of the Metropolis;' and that neither of you, not even little Julia, has had cause to regret the 'Visit to Uncle William.'"

All the children assured Mr. Beresford that they were highly gratified with what they had seen, as well as grateful to him for his instructive descriptions of the various buildings which London contains, without which assistance, they should have lost half their pleasure in beholding them. Mr. Beresford kissed them all affectionately, then re-entering his carriage, the little party returned in high health and spirits to their uncle's house, anxious to make Mrs. Tabitha Plainway acquainted with what they had seen that day, as well as with their uncle's kind intention of taking them a short tour round London.

The Description of the following Buildings having been omitted in the order they were visited by Mr. Beresford and his young friends, notice of them was deemed necessary in this place, as they are represented in the graphical department of this little Work.

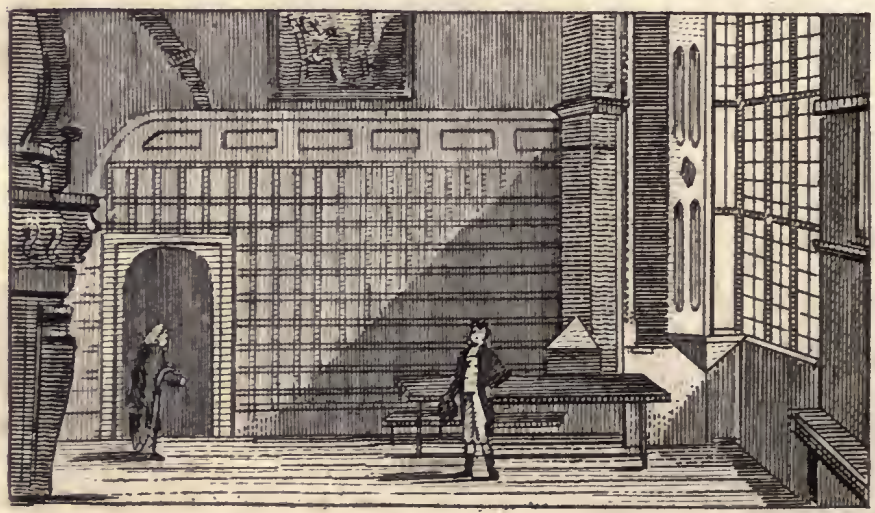
## THE TRINITY HOUSE

Is situated on Tower Hill, and was instituted for the purpose of superintending the interest of British shipping, both warlike and commercial. The powers of the wardens and brethren belonging to it are very extensive: they examine children educated in the mathematical school of Christ's Hospital, and masters of the king's ships; appoint pilots for the river Thames; erect light-houses and sea-marks; grant licences to poor seamen, not free of the city, to row on the Thames; and superintend the deepening and cleansing the river: they annually relieve many seamen and seamen's widows, from various donations, and profits accruing to them by supplying ships with ballast, taken from shoals in the Thames. The building is a handsome structure, and the interior deserves to be visited from many curiosities to be seen there, which may be attained by application to the secretary.



*The London Institution.* *page* 209.

*St. Lukes Hospital.* *page* 209.



*Interior of the Charter House.* *page* 133.

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## THE LONDON INSTITUTION

Is an elegant stone building, erected from a design of Mr. Good, in Moorfields; the expense incurred was defrayed partly by the funds of the society, and by the contributions of several members friendly to the measure.

The Institution has three objects,—the acquisition of a valuable and extensive library, the diffusion of knowledge by the means of lectures and experiments, and the establishment of a reading-room, where the foreign and domestic journals, and other periodical works, and the best new publications, are provided for the use of the subscribers.

The library already consists of a valuable collection of classical, historical, and miscellaneous books.

## ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL,

In Old Street Road, is a noble building, erected at an expense of £55,000, principally collected by voluntary contributions: it is intended for the reception of *outcast maniacs*, or such as cannot, from the nature of the Institution, be kept longer than a certain period in the Royal Hospital of Bethlem. In the interior construction of the apartments, for

the comfort and benefit of its unfortunate inhabitants, and the good management in every department, it may challenge all Europe to produce a better.

## THE MAGDALEN HOSPITAL.

Is situated in St. George's Fields, on the Surrey side of the Thames; and was instituted in the year 1758, for the purpose of relieving and reforming wretched young women, whose conduct had deprived them of character, and rendered them outcasts from society. The utility of this institution has been adduced in numerous instances, by bringing back to the paths of virtue many abandoned characters, and making them good members of society. The Magdalen Hospital is supported by the voluntary contributions of well-disposed persons, and by collections at the chapel, where divine service is performed twice every Sunday.

## CAVENDISH SQUARE.

We should not have noticed this place in our Work, had not our artist made a drawing of a few of the buildings in it. There are certainly some of the latter that have a very noble appear-

ance; and it may be observed, that it was one of the first of the modern improvements in London, having been planned so long ago as the year 1715.

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*** Since writing the account of St. Paul's School, page 32, the building there noticed has been taken down, and a most elegant structure is now nearly completed on the same site: in a future edition of our little Work we shall give a description of it.

THE END.

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